THE

WEEKLY MAGAZINE,

OR

EDINBURGH AMUSEMENT.

THURSDAY, MARCH 12. 1772.

Obſervations on the moſt proper Method to be purſued for encouraging the Growth and Manufacture of FLAX *in* Scotland. LETTER. IV. [P. 292.]

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

HAVING in my former letters explained, at conſiderable length, what I apprehend to be the moſt effectual way of encouraging arts and manufactures *in general*, and pointed out ſome of thoſe circumſtances which prevent the culture of flax from being ſo general in Scotland as could be deſired; I now proceed to inquire into the moſt probable means of removing thoſe obſtacles that have ſtood in the way of our improvement in this reſpect, and to try if it be poſſible to point out ſuch meaſures as, if vigorouſly purſued by thoſe who wiſh to encourage this valuable branch of our commerce, might in all probability produce, in a ſhort time, the deſired effect.

I preſume it will appear evident to every one who has attentively conſidered this ſubject, that the chief obſtacle that prevents the more general culture of this uſeful plant in this country, is the want of a ready market for unmanufactured flax, and the neceſſary trouble and loſs that the farmer is ſubjected to on this account. It ought therefore to be the principal ſtudy of thoſe that wiſh to encourage this, in the firſt place to bend all their efforts towards removing this capital inconvenience. Were it poſſible to get a ſet of men eſtabliſhed in every corner of the country, whoſe ſole employment it was to buy rough flax from the farmer, and manufacture it like the *Lint-boors* in Flanders, we might ſoon hope to ſee the culture of this plant as univerſal through this iſland as could be wiſhed for. But many are the circumſtances which concur to prevent the general eſtabliſhment of ſuch an order of men in our iſland. The firſt reflection that occurs upon this ſubject is, that if we would wiſh to have a body of men who were to be ſubſiſted by buying and manufacturing flax, we muſt neceſſarily ſuppoſe that there is flax in the country, that they may have it in their power to purchaſe and manufacture, otherwiſe they muſt of neceſſity ſtarve for want of employment. This inſtitution may therefore, it may be ſaid, be naturally expected to take place whenever the culture of flax is ſo general as to give encouragement to ſuch a body of men: it will naturally follow the other, but cannot precede it; and therefore our moſt ſtrenuous efforts at preſent ought to be directed towards encouraging farmers to rear flax; and if we can once effectuate this, the other will follow of courſe, and then every thing will go on in a regular *rotine*, without any let or interruption whatever. This method of reaſoning is extremely natural, and may eaſily miſlead any one who is not very attentive to the conſequence of it; for it is juſt; as every one muſt be ſenſible, that ſuch an order of men cannot

ſubſiſt in any country unleſs they have materials to work; and therefore they cannot *eſtabliſh themſelves* in any country, untill the people of that country are in the uſe of rearing a conſiderable quantity of that article which furniſhes materials for carrying on their manufacture. But the misfortune is, that the mutual dependence of the farmer and the purchaſer upon one another is ſo neceſſary, that neither can exiſt without the other; ſo that nothing can induce the farmer to raiſe this crop but the certainty of a purchaſer for it. What then ſhall be done in this caſe? Muſt we abandon the attempt as impracticable? By no means—Since the purchaſer and the rearer of this crop have ſuch a natural dependence upon one, another as that one order of theſe cannot long exiſt without the other, what remains for us to do but to ſhow an equal attention to each; to cheriſh and ſupport the one by a well-timed attention and humanity, till he is enabled to ſubſiſt himſelf, and to inſtruct and encourage the other, by affording him a certainty of being no loſer on any occaſion by propagating this crop, unleſs it ſhall be evidently his own fault? Both of which might probably be effected in the following manner.

In every undertaking of this kind, it is detrimental to the general deſign to graſp at too much, and it is always a much ſurer method of ſucceeding, to confine our efforts to a narrow ſphere, in which even a ſmall ſum of money, if properly applied, and the neceſſary attention to it long enough continued, would be more efficacious than if a much larger ſum were employed in inconcluſive efforts upon a much extended ſcale. For this reaſon I apprehend, that it would be of uſe for the *Truſtees* or others, who wiſh effectually to encourage this article, to bend their whole efforts at one time to ſome particular diſtrict, not larger than they found their funds could eaſily extend to, and be ſufficiently capable of beſtowing every ſort of encouragement that they ſhould find neceſſary; nor diſcontinue their efforts or extend their views to any other corner, till they had effectually eſtabliſhed this particular manufacture in that place; after which they might ſafely go on to another. Having this always in view, it would be proper for the *Truſtees* to make choice of ſome particular county, or diſtrict in Scotland, of a moderate extent, as a field for their firſt efforts. In this diſtrict they ſhould reſolve to erect lint-mills, with houſes and apparatus complete for carrying on the manufacture, in convenient places, about ten or twelve miles from one another. Each of theſe mills ought to be put under the charge of a man of character, who ſhould underſtand compleatly every branch of the manufacture, and who ſhould have ſuch encouragement from the Truſtees as would put him beyond the fear of want, till the diſtrict around him ſhould be encouraged to rear as much flax as to enable him to ſubſiſt himſelf by his own buſineſs without any aſſiſtance whatever.

The next circumſtance that ſhould demand the attention of the Truſtees would be, to encourage the farmers around theſe mills to rear flax to keep them in employment. We will ſuppoſe that the diſtrict that they have made choice of, is one in which the ſoil is naturally well adapted for producing flax, but where it has hitherto been but little cultivated, and that therefore ſome method will be neceſſary to be taken to induce the farmers to try to cultivate it, and at the ſame time to inſtruct them in ſome of the moſt eſſential parts of the culture thereof. Here then is a proper field for premiums to be given; for although I apprehend that they can never be of much utility towards *eſtabliſhing* any practice in a country, they may ſurely be ſucceſsfully employed for *introducing* any art to the acquaintance of a nation, if judiciouſly employed: but as I imagine that the effects which premiums are capable of producing on arts has been generally miſunderſtood, and that the mode of diſtributing them is on many occaſions improper, I ſhall beg leave to explain myſelf a little more fully upon this head before I proceed.

When the general body of the people, in any one country, are ignorant of the practice of any particular art that the more enlightened men among them might be ſenſible would be of uſe to them to know and to practiſe, there is no other method that can be taken to make them acquainted with this particular art, but either to introduce among them perſons who are acquainted with the practice of it, who may teach them, or to offer ſuch encouragement to thoſe who may attempt to practiſe it, as ſhall induce them to exert themſelves to the utmoſt of their power to acquire a knowledge

thereof; or, if they have acquired in general ſome degree of knowledge in that art, although they are ſtill, in ſome reſpects, imperfect, a premium offered at that period to any one who ſhall make any particular diſcovery therein, will be attended with the beſt conſequences; becauſe it whets the invention of individuals, and prompts every artificer of genius to make ſome improvement; and the one who ſhall obtain the prize is not only rewarded by *it*, but, as it likewiſe ſerves to point him out as excelling others, it induces many people to give him employment, ſo that he is happily rewarded for his induſtry and ingenuity, and the art that he practiſes is improved thereby. The premium, in this caſe, ought to be beſtowed upon him alone who has made the principal improvement; nor is it neceſſary to reward the others who have made attempts, altho' they have not ſo happily ſucceeded; becauſe, in making theſe efforts, they cannot have ſubjected themſelves to any conſiderable expence, and muſt, in time, reap profit from the improvement that they have made in their art by this very effort. But the caſe is widely different, when we come to conſider what is the beſt method of encouraging a farmer to cultivate any particular plant with which he is intirely, or in a great meaſure, unacquainted; for, in this caſe, he ſubjects himſelf to a certain loſs for a very uncertain profit. Every experiment that a farmer makes muſt be attended with a loſs to him if it ſhall not ſucceed; becauſe, if he had ſowed his ground with ſuch plants as he was acquainted with, he was ſure of reaping a crop, the value of which he could nearly aſcertain, which he abandons in hopes of obtaining a greater profit from the unknown crop that is recommended to his attention. Now, if this crop ſhould fail, he loſes what he certainly would have got by the other, and reaps little other ſervice from his unſucceſsful experiment, but to be laughed at by his neighbours, and rendered more cautious for the future. Now, as there are peculiar ſoils, upon which almoſt every particular plant more naturally delights than in others, and, as there are other peculiarities in the culture of almoſt every plant, which experience alone can fully teach, it is not ſurpriſing if the ſenſible part of farmers ſhould be a little ſhy in attempting to rear any plant with which they are in a great meaſure unacquainted, and for which they ſee no ready market at hand. But the young and giddy, ever apt to be hurried away by the ſuggeſtions of fancy, will not deliberately weigh all theſe circumſtances, and will be prone, of themſelves, to graſp at every tempting bait that is held up before them, although it ſhould not be gilded with the hopes of a premium to urge them forward. For theſe reaſons, I look upon it as being extremely detrimental to the intereſts of agriculture, to offer a few premiums to thoſe who ſhall cultivate the *greateſt quantity* of any particular kind of crop, as is uſually the caſe, becauſe it adds wings to the impetuous, who would rather need to be checked, and does not influence the judicious, whoſe experience alone could ever be of any extenſive uſe in caſes of this kind. I need hardly point out the conſequences that muſt attend this. The leaſt that can be expected is, that the youthful adventurer is embarraſſed with difficulties that he did not foreſee, which gives additional poignancy to the ſarcaſms of the more cautious practitioner. I would therefore eſteem it more judicious, in all caſes of this kind, to give a ſmall premium to *every one*, within a certain diſtrict, who ſhould raiſe what ſhould be reckoned an ordinary crop upon a ſmall ſpot of ground, ſuppoſe one-fourth or one-eight of an acre, and no more to thoſe who reared more than that quantity. This propoſal may, perhaps, appear a little abſurd to ſome, who conſider that our profeſſed deſign is to increaſe the quantity raiſed in the country, and that, by proceeding in this manner, we would ſeem to wiſh to diminiſh it, by confining our premiums chiefly to thoſe who ſhould rear but ſmall quantities; yet, notwithſtanding the paradoxical appearance of this propoſal, I hope, when examined into, it will be found to be better calculated than the other for the purpoſe intended: For, let it be remembered, that premiums in this caſe are only of uſe to induce judicious people to try ſome particular new practice, with regard to which they are but little acquainted, the profits ariſing from which, it is always ſuppoſed, *are* evidently ſo great as to induce them to continue it after they are once made acquainted therewith; therefore it would be improper to give any great premium to ſuch as, being already ſenſible of the profits that might be reaped from this particular practice, had, on

this account, been induced to try it at large. Again, nothing ſo effectually induces any man to try an experiment as the *certainty* that he *cannot* be a loſer by it; and I have already ſhewed, that nothing is ſo ready to make one ſucceed in an experiment as to try it in a very ſmall quantity at firſt, as he will thus be enabled to beſtow upon it all the neceſſary care and attention without much trouble to himſelf; nor would any thing be ſo likely to produce this effect as this mode of giving premiums. Many individuals would be thus induced to try the plan, each of them having the aſſured certainty of being no loſer by it, and the greateſt probability of conducting their experiment properly with little trouble to themſelves; ſo that, if it was a crop that could be reared with advantage, they would thus have the beſt chance of feeling the whole of this, and of conſequence would naturally increaſe their quantity afterwards, if they found their profit in ſo doing. The premium will thus induce ſenſible men to give it a candid trial, and this is all that premiums ſhould ever attempt; if the practice ſhall be found profitable, it will be continued without any regard to the premiums; if it is not ſo, it certainly ought, and will be diſcontinued. I am not ignorant, however, of the trouble and expence that would attend this mode of diſtributing premiums; but, if this cannot be ſubmitted to, it were better to diſcontinue them intirely than to throw away money in vain and fruitleſs attempts. I once knew a ſociety of private gentlemen, who ſet out upon this plan of giving premiums in a certain diſtrict; but their funds were quite exhauſted: for they committed an error in not reſtricting the competitors to thoſe alone who had ſowed only a ſmall quantity of ground. But it was really amazing to ſee what effect this produced in two years only that it was continued, the practice that they wiſhed to introduce into that diſtrict having been fully eſtabliſhed during that time, nor is it in any danger of ever being again forgot.

I ſhould now proceed to finiſh this diſſertation, but find that I ſhall be obliged to beg your indulgence for another letter, as what I have to ſay would ſwell this to too great a length. I am,

SIR,

Your, &c.

AGRICOLA.

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

WITH infinite pleaſure I peruſe your numerous correſpondent's endeavours to make the Weekly Miſcellany uſeful and entertaining. I pretend to be no critic in literary productions; every man may judge of the truth wherein he is perfectly acquainted, and it is a duty incumbent on him to rectify, where the public, the traveller in particular, are miſled by falſe or imperfect aſſertions.—Such is the ſupplement to Mr Young's liſts of inns and inn-keepers, inſerted from the Gentleman's Magazine in yours the week before laſt, which, I am afraid, was wrote more to indulge the author's taſte for ſatyr, than to be of real ſervice to travellers. He (like moſt others of his Brethren *) ſeems to have diſtinguiſhed the qualities of the inns by the pretty landladies, daughters, maids, &c; or perhaps by their being unprovided (at the time) with his favourite diſh, which, by the bye, he generally inſiſts on—*becauſe they have it not*; and, from preſent appearances, will aſſert to the diſadvantage of a well-eſtabliſhed inn (which he has repeatedly done), without inquiring into the character it bears.—He is alſo moſt egregiouſly wrong with regard to the ſituation and diſtances of the inns, particularly the different ſtages from Newcaſtle to Edinburgh: from Lauder to Melros 41 miles, whereas it is only 11.---Langholm is in the lands of Liddeſdale, and not nigh the verdant hills of Tivoitdale, &c.---And now, Sir, if ſome of your correſpondents, from time to time, would favour us with an impartial liſt of inns and inn-keepers on principal roads leading to Edinburgh, in a regular manner (and not, as in Mr *Rider's*, a ſtage or two of a road where his beſt cuſtomers lay), I make no doubt but it would be acceptable to your readers.---In the mean time I ſhall give you theſe from Newcaſtle to Edinburgh.

Newcaſtle, Northumberland, 273 miles from London; Turk's-head, Parker; excellent; a managing landlady, the landlord (if you find any) a gentleman of the turf. N. B. Poſt-chaiſes at 7 d. per mile.

* Riders, *perſons employed by manufacturers in* England, *to tranſact buſineſs with their cuſtomers in the North.*

——Black Bull, Nelſon; good; London and Edinburgh Fly three times a-week.

Morpeth, Northumberland, 15 miles, Queen's Head, Harle; very good.

Felton, Northumberland, 10 miles, Grapes, Gray; ſo ſo, inquiſitive landlord.

Alnwick, Northumberland, 9 miles, Angel, Turnbull; confuſed.

——Swan, Nelſon; tolerable.

Belford, Northumberland, 15 miles, ---, Bugg; very bad.

Berwick, Berwick bounds, 15 miles, Red Lion, Hall; good; high life in the bar.

——Tweedmouth, ---, Miſs Humphreys; good, civil.

——Preſs Inn, Berwickſhire, 12 miles, ---, Redpath; very indifferent; lately built on Coldinghame moor.

N. B. No Inn, now at Old Cambus.

Dunbar, Haddingtonſhire, 14 miles, George, Lorimer; good; a civil landlord.

Beltonford, Haddingtonſhire, 3 miles, Red Lion, Lorimer; tolerable; managed by a peeviſh old maid.

Haddington, Haddingtonſhire, 8 miles, Blue Bell, Fairbairn; excellent; miſerable waiters.

Muſelburgh, Edinburghſhire, 10 miles, Fox, Tod; indifferent.

Edinburgh, Edinburghſhire, 6 miles, 389 from London, White Horſe, Boyd; —Red Lion, Ramſay; both very good; *Hymen's* ware-houſe.

——White Hart, Paxton; formerly good; bad poſt-horſes.

——Cockburn, George: very good; the beſt inn for travellers.

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Edinburgh, March 3.

1772.

MEMOIRS *of the* EQUESTRIAN HERO *and Mrs* K—DAL. *From the Hiſtories of the* Tete-a-Tete.

OUR readers will, probably, expect to find in the portrait of our redoubted knight-errant, all the genuine traits of antient chivalry; but, according to the rules of faſhionable gallantry, it is not neceſſary to fight with wind-mills, or even the huſbands of your dulcineas; all the weapons now uſed upon theſe occaſions are quills for ſwords and parchments for targets. In this commercial country ſome men conſider a wife as much a tranſferable commodity as a bale of goods; and the moment another puts his mark upon her, the proctors draw up the bill of ſale, and the lot is diſpoſed of according to the price they fix upon it. This premiſed, all Quixotiſm muſt neceſſarily be exploded, and a knight-errant of to-day, is *literally* no more than a *wandering lover*.

Our equeſtrian inamorato was born in 1734, and ſucceeded his father in title and eſtate in 1751. Being on his travels through Germany in the ſucceeding year, he paid his reſpects to the late king, who was then at Hanover, when his majeſty appointed him a cornet of horſe, and, in 1754, he was raiſed to the command of a troop in the firſt regiment of dragoons; and the year following, returning from the tour of Europe, took his ſeat in the upper houſe. He was conſtituted lord lieutenant and cuſtos rotulorum of W—ſh--e in 1756, and the ſame year was made one of the lords of the b-d-c—r to his preſent m—— when p— of W——: in which ſtation he continued after his acceſſion to the throne, till a certain adventure, that we ſhall preſently have occaſion to mention, was judged a ſufficient cauſe for diſmiſſing him. He was alſo in 1758 nominated aid-de-camp to the late king; and in 1759 he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant-colonel in general E——t's regiment of light armed cavalry, and obtained that of major-general in 1761. In 1764, having recovered the royal favour, he ſucceeded general C——y in the command of his regiment of dragoons, and was alſo nominated high ſteward of S—l---y.

So much for his lordſhip's family, poſts, and dignities; we ſhall now diſmiſs his public character, and conſider him as the Equeſtrian Hero in private life. Graceful in his perſon, comely in his countenance, athletic in his form, and elegant in his addreſs, he had ſcarce attained the age of adoleſcence, before the firſt-rate beauties of the age had their eyes upon him. A P—— was talked of with rapture in every female circle, when his mental accompliſhments claimed as much applauſe as his external attractions. His heart was, however, invulnerable to all the ſhafts of beauty, till the irreſiſtible charms of lady Elizabeth S---r proclaimed him her's alone. They were married in 1756, and this union has given the world an heir to this noble family.

Every one pronounced this one of the

moſt *cordial* alliances that had been framed amongſt the nobility; their hearts and hands were both united, and ſeven years rolled on in mutual felicity; but the frailty of human nature at length prevailed. The celebrated Miſs H——r appeared at the ducheſs of N———d's rout---ſhe came, was ſeen, and conquered: In moment he forgot every tender connubial idea; his paſſion revolted againſt his reaſon, and the illegal uſurper prevailed---Whether a reciprocal paſſion was at the ſame inſtant kindled in the breaſt of Miſs H——r is not certain; but in a few weeks buſy fame loudly trumpeted a connexion of a criminal kind, and this report was almoſt inſtantly ſucceeded by a trip to the continent. The lovers being miſſing, it was immediately concluded that a *tete-a-tete* party had taken place, and it was diſcovered they were together at Bruſſels. They took up their lodgings at the hotel d'Angleterre, kept by madam Bougie, mother to Mrs Kn--les *, who, after her divorce, on account of her *affaire d'honneur* with captain Gamb---r, had taken refuge with her mother, and was here at this period. Mrs Kn--les immediately recollected Miſs H---r, having often figured with her in the ſame gay circles in England, and paid her every poſſible civility, notwithſtanding her ſituation was eaſily to be conjectured, her paramour being ſo oſtenſible a man as lord P———. But Mrs Kn--les, having been nearly in the very ſame predicament, ſhe eaſily prevailed upon herſelf to overlook the part Miſs H---r was acting; and, aſcribing her conduct intirely to the force of her love, conſidered her as the victim of her paſſion, an object of pity, not of contempt.

Whilſt the lovers were giving vent to the full latitude of their fondneſs at Bruſſels, the relations of each party were in the utmoſt anxiety and diſtreſs in England. Mr H---r, then one of the lords of the ad———y, had exerted all his power and influence to prevent their getting out of England. Orders were ſent to ſtop the packets at Dover and Harwich; but theſe orders arrived too late, the fugitives had already reached Oſtend.

* *This was before the admiral thought proper to pay her a viſit at her mother's, to intreat her forgiveneſs for what was paſt, and offer her once more his hand in marriage, which ſhe accepted.*

Lady P------, almoſt diſtracted at his lordſhip's abſence, knew not what part to act. Miſs H--r's father, and other relations, applied to her for intelligence concerning the fair culprit; and ſhe had the additional mortification of being under the neceſſity of defending her own conduct, whilſt ſhe was the party the moſt aggrieved. In fine, this excurſion threw two great families into the utmoſt confuſion and miſery for a conſiderable time; when at length Miſs H---r returned from her travels, leaving her paramour to join his regiment by the king's order, to prevent farther diſgrace, and break off the connexion; but this obedience did not operate in his favour at home, for his majeſty ordered him to reſign his civil employments.

Upon Miſs H---r's return to England, her relations received her with open arms, and ſome time after ſhe married a gentleman, to whom ſhe makes an excellent wife; and her huſband has too much ſenſe and generoſity to upbraid her with what is conſidered as a mere foible by thoſe ladies appointed by the female Coterie to ſit in judgment upon the reputation of their members.

At the cloſe of the campaign in Germany, lord P——— alſo returned to England; and having previouſly by letter paved the way for a reconciliation with his lady and family, a general good underſtanding ſoon prevailed amongſt them; and lady P------, like a judicious woman and a prudent wife, received him with as much cordiality as ever. Peace being thus reſtored in both families, the king was eaſily prevailed upon to reinſtate him in his former poſts, to which, indeed, his intrepidity and military conduct ſtrongly recommended him.

He had not been long in England before he again attended the ducheſs of N-------d's routs, though they were almoſt conſtantly fatal to him, not only by his ill-luck at cards, but by loſſes of a far more precious nature. Here it was his heart firſt wandered from its conjugal attachment, to fall a ſacrifice to love and beauty, in the perſon of the inchanting Miſs H----r; and the very firſt night of his re-appearance in the ſame gay circle, he loſt a very valuable watch, with his arms upon it, enriched with jewels.

His lordſhip's good ſenſe and judgment at this time prevailed over his paſſion; and though his inclinations were very willing to mislead him in favour of

any new beauty, his prudence kept him within the bounds of reaſon, and diverted his thoughts to another channel. He had always been eſteemed an excellent horſeman, and was thought to underſtand the theory as well as the practice of the art of riding equal to any gentleman in England. Having mentioned to a friend, that he judged moſt of the treatiſes on horſemanſhip were in many reſpects erroneous, and that he thought he could render them at leaſt more perfect, he was adviſed to favour the public with his ſentiments upon that ſubject: he accordingly wrote a treatiſe upon horſemanſhip, which has met with the approbation of the connoiſſeurs in that art: and from this circumſtance he has derived the title of the Equeſtrian Hero.

It cannot, however, be ſuppoſed that, at his lordſhip's time of life, he was ſo immerſed in books, that the gay world was intirely deſerted by him: ſo far from this, he was viſible at almoſt every public place, and the ladies were ſtill ſo partial to him, that they never judged a party complete without lord P——. Thus courted by the ladies, who all eſteemed it an honour to be among the number of his friends, we cannot ſuppoſe his lordſhip was formed of ſuch materials as to be proof againſt all their aſſiduities; and the poet juſtly obſerves,

Friendſhip with woman is ſiſter to love.

Convinced of his paſt error with regard to Miſs H——r, his prudence pointed out to him the neceſſity of ſecreſy and caution in any future amour; and yet the buſy voice of fame promulgated ſome *tete-a-tete* parties to Windſor, in which the beautiful Mrs P—— was envied by half her ſex, and pronounced the happieſt woman in England.

This rapturous retreat was followed by another ſtill more publicly talked of with lady S——. The elegant form, and uncommon attractions of this lady, had liſted, in her train of admirers, not only peers and princes of the blood, but even ſovereignty itſelf; it being very well known that the king of D——k, in his late viſit here, took great delight in being in this lady's company, and for whom he expreſſed the higheſt regard. The good underſtanding that ſubſiſted between the late duke of Y—k and lady S——, was ſo generally believed, that we acknowledge ourſelves no ſceptics upon this occaſion; and our belief even extends to think lord P—— was not diſagreeable to her.

The power and influence of the firſt-rate toaſts yielded to the charms of the amiable Mrs K—dal. The ſtory of this lady is ſomewhat ſingular. She is thought to be the natural daughter of the late lord P—t, by the celebrated Peg Ham—n, with whom his lordſhip lived in very cloſe intimacy for ſome years. Miſs H——n was placed at a boarding-ſchool at Kenſington, where ſhe attained all the polite inſtruction given to young ladies. As ſhe advanced towards maturity, ſhe grew uncommonly beautiful and remarkably genteel. She was well ſkilled in French, Italian, muſic, and particularly dancing, in which her maſter ſeemed peculiarly emulous that ſhe ſhould ſurpaſs all the reſt of the young ladies at the ſame ſchool. He called her his *ſparkler*, and commended her perſon and accompliſhments ſo warmly, that the governeſs began to ſuſpect he had ſome deſign upon her. This ſuſpicion did but fore-run the event, for Mr K. and Miſs H. then in her ſeventeenth year, in a few days took a trip to Scotland.

The ſuppoſed father was ſo greatly irritated at this ſtep, that he diſowned her, and ſtruck her out of his will, in which ample proviſion had been made for her. After the death of lord P—t, Mr K—'s affairs became very much embarraſſed, and he judged it prudent to make a trip to Boulogne, to avoid the perſecution of his creditors.

Mrs K——l being thus left deſtitute, without any relations that ſhe could claim, or ſcarce any real friends, ſhe was greatly perplexed what method to purſue to obtain a livelihood; at length ſhe reſolved to ſet up a ſchool for young ladies, which ſeemed a province in life for which ſhe was very well calculated. She accordingly took a ſmall houſe near Brumpton, and ſucceeded beyond her moſt ſanguine expectations.

Lady L—— had placed one of her daughters here, and ſhe deſired lord P—— to accompany her upon a viſit to the young lady. He no ſooner beheld Mrs K--dal, than he was ſtruck with her beauty, which was ſtill more heightened by her converſation, in which ſhe diſplayed great knowledge and good ſenſe. His lordſhip found a very ſtrong prepoſſeſſion in favour of Mrs K--dal: he waited upon

her the next day alone, under pretence of having a young lady, a relation, whom he propoſed placing under Mrs K------'s tuition. In this interview he was ſtill more charmed with her behaviour; and her uncommon ſtory, which ſhe artleſsly told, prejudiced him greatly in her favour. In the courſe of converſation, he inquired what the profits of her ſchool might amount to, and being informed, he took out of his pocket an annuity to double that amount, with which he preſented Mrs K-----, deſiring her to accept it as the reward of merit. She declined receiving it for ſome time; but, finding his injunctions ſo ſtrong that ſhe could no longer reſiſt, ſhe begged to know what return his lordſhip expected for it; to which he replied, "Your friendſhip and eſteem, madam, are more than equivalent."

Notwithſtanding this polite declaration, we do not find his lordſhip ſo complete a Platoniſt, as to confine all his fervent wiſhes in favour of Mrs K------ to thoſe two objects; and we are the more ſtrongly induced to this opinion, from Mrs K-----'s having ſoon after quitted the ſchool, and retired to a genteel houſe in the New Buildings, where his lordſhip conſtantly viſits her.

It muſt, however, be allowed, that this correſpondence is carried on with the greateſt delicacy; and that Mrs K-----'s reputation is at leaſt equivocal in the neighbourhood, where ſhe is reſpected for decorum, civility and benevolence. If every amour was conducted upon ſuch a refined plan, many ladies of the firſt faſhion, who have lately brought ſuch ſcandal upon the morals of the times, might ſtill lay ſome claim to the veſtal zone, or the matron's virtue.

Memoirs of PLINY *the Elder, or* C PLINIUS SECUNDUS.

PLINY was a phyſician and naturaliſt, born of an illuſtrious family at Verona. He lived under Veſpaſian and Titus, who honoured him with their eſteem. He was the author of a great number of works, but no other than his Natural Hiſtory has been handed down to us. He wrote upon a much more extenſive plan than Ariſtotle, and probably his was too unlimited. Deſirous of comprehending every thing, he ſeems to have endeavoured to take meaſure of nature, and even to have found it too confined for the extent of his genius. His Natural Hiſtory comprehends, independent of his hiſtory of animals, plants, and minerals, a hiſtory of heaven and earth, medicine, commerce, navigation; a hiſtory of arts, liberal and mechanic, the origin of cuſtoms; in fine, all natural ſciences, and all human arts. What is moſt aſtoniſhing, is to find him in every part equally great; an elevation of ideas, and a nobleneſs of ſtile, heighten ſtill more his profound erudition. He not only knew all that could be known in his time, but he had that facility of thinking, upon the whole, which multiplies knowledge; he poſſeſſed that delicacy of reflection, upon which depends the elegance of taſte; and he communicates to his readers a certain liberty and boldneſs of thought which is the baſis of philoſophy. His work, though as variegated as nature herſelf, always depicts her in a beautiful dreſs. It may, indeed, be ſaid, that his book is a compilation of all that was wrote before him; a copy of all that was excellent and uſeful in learning; but this copy has ſuch ſtriking features—this compoſition contains a variety of objects, placed in ſuch an intire new point of light, that it is preferable to the greateſt of thoſe original productions that treat upon the ſame ſubject.

This learned naturaliſt, as Pliny the younger, his nephew, informs us, lived a regular œconomical life, ſlept but little, and employed all his time to the beſt advantage. He always had a perſon to read at his table, and, in his perambulations in ſearch of knowledge, he had conſtantly with him his book, his tablets, and his amanuenſis, as he read no work from which he did not make extracts.

He had, probably, never his parallel for aſſiduity in reading and writing. One day the reader, during the repaſt, having given a vicious pronunciation to ſome words, one of Pliny's friends ſtopt him, and made him begin again. Pliny ſaid to his friend, "You nevertheleſs underſtood him?" which being agreed to, Pliny added, "Why then did you make him read it again?—your interruption has made us loſe above ten lines." At another time, obſerving his nephew walking without his book, he ſaid, "You cannot afford to loſe this time."

He wrote to Titus in the following

familiar manner, "The whole day I allot to buſineſs, and I reſerve the night for reading and compoſition. Should I not be even too happy if this conduct procured me no other advantage than that of living longer? Sleep abſorbs half the life of man; and it is a more certain and a more legal gain than any other, to purloin as much time as poſſible from Morpheus."

Pliny's death was occaſioned by a fatal accident, which is ſet forth at length in a letter from his nephew to Tacitus the hiſtorian. He was at Niſmus, where he commanded a ſquadron of Roman ſhips. Perceiving a large and uncommon cloud riſe from Mount Veſuvius, he ſailed towards it, to obſerve the different forms that this dreadful phænomenon would ſucceſſively undergo. He dictated his obſervations with the ſame tranquility of mind as if nothing had been to be dreaded from it. Nevertheleſs, burning calcined pulverized ſtones and flints began to fall upon his ſhips in great quantities. Pliny deliberated a moment whether he ſhould veer about, agreeable to the exhortations of the pilot; but his inſatiable thirſt of knowledge and inſtruction prevailed, and he rejected his pilot's advice. "Fortune, (ſaid he) favours the brave—let us go and join Pomponianus, who is now on ſhore." This was one of his friends, whom he found buſy in preparing to eſcape, as ſoon as the wind, which was contrary, had veered about. Pliny embraced and encouraged him; and to diminiſh his fears, and convince his friend of their ſeeming ſecurity, he went and bathed; then ſupped, and was very chearful. After the repaſt he went to reſt, and ſlept profoundly. Nevertheleſs, the apparent danger obliged him to wake. The court of the houſe was filled with aſhes, and the building ſo much ſhook by repeated earthquakes, that it ſeemed torn from its foundation; the walls threatened every moment to fall in. On the other hand, the eruptive matter fell in ſuch quantities in the open country, that there was the greateſt danger of being ſmothered abroad. It was, nevertheleſs, determined to ſally forth at break of day. A dark and thick vapour ſurrounded Pliny, and it was neceſſary to deſtroy its effects by lighted flambeaux. Having gained the ſea-ſide in order to know if it was poſſible to ſail, they found it more tempeſtuous than ever. Pliny threw himſelf upon the ground and called for cold water, which he drank; when a ſulphureous ſmell aroſe, and a flame ſucceeded. Every one flew; Pliny aroſe and ſupported himſelf by two ſlaves, but he fell down dead the next inſtant, ſuffocated, doubtleſs, by the burning air which he breathed. His body was found two days after without any viſible wound, with his cloaths intire, and he appeared only as if aſleep. This happened about ſeventy-nine years before the birth of Chriſt, when Pliny was in his fifty-ſixth year.

To the PUBLISHER, *&c.*

THE late revolution in Denmark will render the following extracts from the Lex Regia, or Royal Law of that kingdom, ſeaſonable; and, by publiſhing them in your uſeful Magazine, you will gratify the public, who ſeem at preſent very little acquainted with the Daniſh form of government.

G. M. Your, &c. W W.

LEX REGIA; *or the* ROYAL LAW *of* DENMARK.

LEX REGIA, *i. e.* the royal ſovereign law, conſtituted and enacted by the moſt potent and illuſtrious prince and lord, Frederick III. by the grace of God, king of Denmark and Norway, of the Goths and Vandals, duke of Sleſwick, Holſtein, Stormar, and Ditmarſh, count of Oldenburg and Delmenhorſt, ſubſcribed by his majeſty on the 14th day of November 166;, which the moſt potent and moſt illuſtrious prince and lord, Frederick IV. by the grace of God, king of Denmark and Norway, of the Goths and Vandals, &c. has graciouſly ordered to be printed and publiſhed, on the 4th day of September 1709.

[In the preamble to this law, it is ſaid that the all wiſe God had reſerved for the inhabitants of Denmark the faireſt opportunity of giving a proof of their attachment and loyalty to their kings, till the reign of Frederick III. when all the world might ſee, with admiration, the chearful readineſs with which they offered themſelves to ſerve their country, and their king in particular, who had ſo valiantly, with great prudence, defended his faithful ſubjects; ſo that his majeſty did not only put a glorious end to a

bloody war, but did likewiſe introduce a new form of government, advancing at once the kingly power to the higheſt degree of ſovereignty.

And this grand revolution was executed on the 16th of October 1660, on which day his majeſty was ſolemnly diſcharged, by the nobility of the kingdom, from the obligation of his coronation oath; and, on the 18th, the eccleſiaſtics and citizens did the ſame, by paying public homage to his majeſty, in preſence of the queen and all the royal family, and offering to him, and his heirs of both ſexes, an unlimited or deſpotic power, which homage they confirmed by a ſolemn oath.

On the 17th of November following, the three ſtates of the kingdom were made acquainted, by a public inſtrument, that the king was for ever diſcharged from his coronation oath; and that the original inſtrument, ſigned by his majeſty upon that occaſion, or any counterpart thereof, ſhould be declared null and of no effect.

And, to give a finiſhing ſtroke to this great work, the year following, there was an inſtrument prepared, called an Act of Hereditary Right, or Abſolute Power, which was ſigned and ſealed by the principal inhabitants of the kingdom, whether citizens, lords, or eccleſiaſtics, viz. it was ſigned in Denmark the 10th of January 1661, in Norway the 7th of Auguſt the ſame year, in Iceland the 28th of July 1662, and in the iſland of Faroe on the 14th of Auguſt of the firſt year; in which inſtrument they did not only, for themſelves and poſterity, confirm all that had been tranſacted by their fellow-ſubjects, with relation to the hereditary ſucceſſion; but did offer to his majeſty, and his heirs for ever, an abſolute power and authority to introduce what form of government he, in his great wiſdom, ſhould judge proper, and likewiſe to regulate the ſucceſſion in his royal family according to his own royal diſcretion.

In conſequence of this ſolemn act of ſurrender, his majeſty, on his part, did not only enact wholeſome laws, ſuitable to the nature of abſolute government, and to the genius of the people, but did alſo preſcribe a royal law to his heirs and ſucceſſors in the government, for the preventing of all irregular proceedings, wherein they may ſee the unchangeable order to be obſerved in the ſucceſſion to the end of the world. This royal law, in the year 1683, Chriſtian V. did publiſh; and, in the year 1687, did add thereto the law of Norway. But, as for the royal law introduced by king Frederick III. and given out by him on the 14th of Nov. 1665, four years before his death, it is to be looked upon, and obſerved, by all degrees and orders of men, as an unchangeable, perfect, and fundamental law of the land.

Which royal law is in ſubſtance as follows:

1. Seeing that all things derive their beginning from God, we, in the firſt place, recommend very particularly to our children, and to their children's children, to a thouſand generations, the worſhip of the true God, as revealed in the holy ſcriptures, and as ſet forth in the confeſſion of Auſburg; and that all the inhabitants of this land be protected in this profeſſion of the Chriſtian faith, againſt all ſectaries, heretics, and infidels whatſoever.

2. The king of Denmark and Norway ſhall hereafter be eſteemed, by all his ſubjects, as independent upon earth, acknowledging no power but God only.

3. The king of Denmark ſhall, of his ſole authority, make, alter, and repeal laws, or diſpenſe with them, as he ſhall think proper.

4. All employments and offices, of what nature ſoever, ſhall be diſpoſed of by the ſame authority.

5. The king ſhall make peace and war, form alliances, lay taxes, and raiſe armies.

6. The king ſhall have abſolute authority over the church, and all religious aſſemblies.

7. All ordinances and writs ſhall be iſſued in the king's name only, who, if of full age, is to ſign them.

8. As ſoon as the king has entered his 14th year, he ſhall be of full age, and no longer under tutors and guardians.

9. The guardianſhip of a minor king ſhall be regulated by the laſt will of his predeceſſor; but in caſe the deceaſed king made no will, then the queen, his widow, if ſurviving, ſhall be regent to the young king, her ſon, taking to her aſſiſtance ſeven of the king's chief counſellors, who ſhall manage the government amongſt them, deciding all controverſies by majority of votes, wherein the queen is to have two, and each of the ſeven counſellors one. All ordinances to be iſſued in the king's name, and to be

ſigned by the queen and the ſaid ſeven counſellors.

10. If the queen-mother is dead, or married again, then ſhall the next prince of the blood, if arrived at his 18th year, be regent, and have two votes as before.

11. But if the prince of the blood is not arrived at his 18th year, then the firſt ſeven chief officers of the king ſhall manage the regency, whereof every one of them is to have a vote, and equal authority.

12. If one of the firſt ſeven chief officers dies, or by any other accident is rendered incapable for that high employment, then another ſhall be immediately elected.

13. The regents, or guardians, ſhall not only promiſe fidelity to the king, but ſhall likewiſe ſwear to preſerve the abſolute and deſpotic power in its full force.

14. As ſoon as the regents have taken their oath of fidelity, they ſhall make an exact inventory of all the provinces, cities, fortreſſes, jewels, money, and warlike ſtores both by ſea and land, as well as of the king's expences and revenues, that it may thereby appear in what ſtate and condition the kingdom is at the time; and that they may, by this means, be enabled to give an account of their adminiſtration to his majeſty, as ſoon as he ſhall be of age; or elſe be puniſhed for abuſing the truſt repoſed in them.

15. The kingdom of Denmark henceforth ſhall never be reputed to want a king; for, in that very moment that a king dies, the next prince of the blood is actually, without any ceremony, an hereditary, deſpotic, or abſolute king. Nevertheleſs, that all the world may ſee that the kings of Denmark and Norway do reckon it their greateſt glory and power to humble themſelves before the Almighty God, and to be bleſſed of him, by the hands of the faithful miniſters of Chriſt, we therefore will and order, that the kings of Denmark be anointed ſolemnly in the church with decent ceremonies.

16. The king ſhall make no oath of any kind to his ſubjects, becauſe neither covenants nor oaths can bind an hereditary abſolute ſovereign.

17. And ſeeing daily experience teacheth us, that the more powerful any potentate or monarch in united provinces is, the more ſecure he and his ſubjects will be againſt foreign invaſions: Therefore, we will and command, that theſe our kingdoms of Denmark and Norway, with all the provinces, iſlands, lordſhips, fortreſſes, &c. do all remain undivided in the poſſeſſion of one abſolute hereditary king of Denmark and Norway.

18. And it is our will, that the other children do content themſelves with the hope of reigning when it comes to their turn, and with honourable maintenance either in money or lands, the incomes whereof they ſhall enjoy for their lives, but the property to remain ſtill in the king; and the proviſion, which ſhall be made for the queen-dowager, ſhall be on the ſame foot.

19. That no prince of the blood do preſume to marry out of the kingdom, or to engage himſelf in the ſervice of a foreign prince, without leave of the king.

20. The king's daughters and ſiſters ſhall have a maintenance ſuitable to their quality, till they are married with the king's conſent; and then are to have ſuch dowry as the king, in his wiſdom, ſhall think fit.

21. The princes and princeſſes, in the point of precedence, ſhall take their place immediately next to the king and queen, and amongſt themſelves according to the proximity of their line to the hereditary ſucceſſion in the government.

22. They ſhall never ſwear before any judge, but before the king only, or by one immediately delegated by his majeſty.

23. And it is our will and pleaſure, that as long as any of our male heirs, born in lawful marriage, are living, that neither a woman deſcending from the male, nor man nor woman deſcending from the female, ſhall be called to the ſucceſſion; nor any prince or princeſs by the mother's ſide have any right or title to the ſame, as long as any prince or princeſs by the father's ſide is to be found; ſo that a princeſs of the maſculine line ſhall be preferred to a prince deſcended of the female line.

24. When the ſucceſſion falls to a princeſs of the blood, ſhe ſhall have the preference who is deſcended from an elder, rather than any other; and ſo on, as long as any of the maſculine line does ſurvive: but, when the male line is quite extinct, the princes and princeſſes of the female line ſhall take their turn, and the ſame order be obſerved in the ſucceſſion,

that is to say, the male is to go before the female, and the elder is always to take place of the younger.

2. The queen's husband shall have no authority in these kingdoms, however powerful a prince he may be in his own country, but shall give the precedence to her in all things, and obey her, as the hereditary sovereign queen of Denmark and Norway.

Thus have we, according to the best direction of human prudence, made provision for the future peace and prosperity of our dear and loving subjects; but the best concerted schemes of human policy are still in the hands of Almighty God, into whose gracious protection and fatherly providence we most humbly recommend our kingdoms, and all our loyal subjects, to the end of time.

Dated at our court in Copenhagen, Nov. 15. 1665, and signed

FREDERICK.

To the PUBLISHER, *&c.*

SIR,

THE following letter, which I take to be an original, accidentally falling into my hands, and containing in it something curious, may not, perhaps, be unentertaining to some of your readers, and consequently not altogether unworthy a place in your useful Magazine.

W. W.

Gent. Mag.

REV. SIR,

THE honour of yours of the 27th instant I have, and by it understand the manuscript I made bold to send you came to your hands, which had lain by me at least thirty years unseen, and was accidentally found in a search among my old papers, and this search was occasioned upon an intent to withdraw myself out of the world.

In mine to you, I wrote that this MSS. was wrote upon the spott, viz. the place of treaty; and every night, after I had dispatched the multitude of letters and papers, which the duty of my place as secretary to the parliament commissioners obliged me unto, I wrote therein the papers and occurrences of the day, and took care to compare every paragraph with the originalls, and to my best remembrance put an *examinatur* to every one. I never gave copy of it, nor let it go out of my custody; nor did I ever transcribe it, or any part of it, after the recess from the isle of Wight: It was never viewed by the commissioners, nor by any on the king's side, but was purely my own hand-writing, being exactly compared with the originals, and as I think genuine and true, except in such litteral errours as the pen or hast might occasion: And I find I wrote my name, Edmond Warcupp, secretary, to one of the quires of paper which I sent you, without adding any thing of title or matter to the old manuscript (when I now found it), least I should lessen the authority and truth of it. The profound judgement and piety of that most excellent monarch, king Charles the First, appears throughout: And, when I shall tell you, that he alone was permitted to argue upon the propositions, with that great number of expert commissioners, you will conclude he must be a great man. I remember well, that the debate about episcopacy and church government lasted one day about eight hours, wherein the severall commissioners, by all the arguments they could suggest, endeavoured to perswade his majesty to agree to the propositions, and that his majesty took the pains to answer every one particularly, and to dissect the fallacies, and did so fully convince their judgements, that in a body they rose up, and told his majesty, they must ingeniously confess, that he had convinced them, and that reason was on his majesty's side; but they were so bound up by their instructions, that, if they could depart from the letter of the propositions, they could not depart from the substance: upon which his majesty replied, Then this is a force upon me, not a free treaty; to which expression no one of the commissioners made any return. The world knows the wonderful abilities of that glorious monarch, and therefore none can doubt but, in all arguments, he silenced those many commissioners, when they durst recurr to their own reason; and many of them have confest they thought him divinely inspired. So I thought also, which I might well do, being, before that treaty, miraculously convinced of the divinity (if I may so call it) in his person. From my birth to the age of thirteen years, I was afflicted with the king's evill, sores breaking out in all and every part of my body; and so notorious a diseased person I was, that a learned phisitian of that age requested my father to leave me at his house, to the intent that himself, with

other famous phisitians, might dayly consult my case. There I continued a sad object for years, and so macerated, that my life was often despaired of. At length my father got me touched by that holy martyr, who put an angel of gold (coyned for that purpose) about my neck; and, within six months after, from being carried in armes, though about twelve years old, I got strength, and afterwards, by degrees, the sores healed, the swellings abated, and a perfect health succeeded. Then my father and friends sent me to travell, and my parents, either through the pretended sanctity of those times, or the fear of losing that piece of gold, sent me into France without it. When I came to Orleance, my sores and swellings renewed; upon which I applyed to one Dr Winstone, there resident to avoid the stormes in England, who administred proper remedies; but they not answering his expectation, he asked me if I had been healed by the king: I told him, Yes: Where then is the gold he gave you? says the doctor. I replied, In England. He in a fury answered, my friends were puritanicall and rebells, and would have no more to do with me, but bid me send for the gold. I did so, and, when I had it, rubbed the sores and swellings therewith, which perfectly cured me; and the same gold does at times, upon severall occasions, afford me much comfort.

Reverend Sir,

Your most obliged humble servant,

London, 29° *Maij*, 1697. EDMOND WARCUPP.

The MAN *of* PLEASURE No. VI.

——— *Nil fuit unquam*
Tam dispar sibi. HOR.

MY correspondents increase so greatly, that I now find it a very easy task, by selecting such letters as are most proper for the public eye, to furnish my readers with a paper under this title every month. The following one appears to me to have the greatest claim to merit.

To the MAN *of* PLEASURE.

SIR,

WHAT has given such a reproach to letters, and made the man of learning appear ridiculous, is, that he too frequently prides himself upon his learning, or rather his memory alone, without considering that a man of the world, who has never read one of the classics in their original language, may be a very entertaining and agreeable companion. It is not the mere parade of letters, the aptitude of quoting a long passage from Virgil, or dragging in head and shoulders an epigram from Martial, that gives life to conversation, or improves the mirth of the festive board. Neither is the regularity of argument formed into precise syllogistic rules, so engaging as the logician may, from self-conviction, believe: indeed, the very idea of argument carries with it somewhat so controversial, that it destroys, particularly with the ladies, the beauties of conversation, whose charms should ever tend to please and captivate. The social intercourse of the world is not hurt so much for want of wit, sense, or learning, as from a too great eagerness to display them at the expence of another—in a word, the gratification of our own vanity, instead of an assiduous endeavour to amuse the company.

The pedant, who has never read aught but books in his closet, will make as aukward a figure when he first comes into the world, as the mere rustic, who has never learned his letters, would in the Bodleian library: for in conversation, as in address, it is not the scholar, or the dancing master, that makes the most agreeable appearance: I never found the mere scholar an entertaining companion, and I never saw the professed dancing-master come into a room with ease and elegance. The first must divest himself of all pedantry, and the latter of all the stiffness of his art, before he can be moulded into the fine gentleman.

Nothing but an early intercourse with the polite world, ingrafted upon good sense, and a tolerable education, can give a man that facility of behaviour, which so peculiarly distinguishes the courtier from the clown, which throws an ease into all his attitudes, makes even the most aukward positions appear genteel, and, in a word, enables him to

Snatch a grace beyond the reach of art.

There is, perhaps, a greater analogy between external appearance and sentiment than is generally believed. The man who possesses himself, and is conscious of the propriety of his behaviour,

derives a confidence from it, that enables him to expreſs himſelf with eaſe, and without confuſion, even in the moſt critical and embarraſſing circumſtances. It will enable him to diſconcert the brow-beating counſil, and the impertinent ſcholiaſt; for, like mere bullies, they are moſt generally vanquiſhed by the leaſt oppoſition.

Sir F. N. when at the bar, was examining an evidence, whom he aſked, "What are you, Sir?" "A gentleman." "A gentleman! um! What, I ſuppoſe, your eſtate is like Dr Rock's, neither here nor there." "No, Sir, it lies contiguous to your's." "To mine—where, pray?" "Directly oppoſite your large braſs mine, which has produced you ſo much, and which ſeems inexhauſtible." Sir F. ſcratched his head, and ſaid, he had no more queſtions to aſk this evidence.

"Pray, Sir, (ſaid *Lexicos*, the other day at a coffee-houſe, to a young gentleman in the navy), can you give me the definition of *loxodromics?*" "Sir, (replied the young tar, with great compoſure), you have got into a very oblique courſe of ſailing, and are quite out of your latitude." The *book-worm* turned upon his heel, dropt his three-pence at the bar, and has not ſhewn his face there ſince.

When we ſee a Bobadil caned after bluſtering about his valour, and a profeſſed ſatyriſt have the tables fairly turned upon him, we cannot help enjoying a ſecret ſatisfaction far better felt than expreſſed; and the general laugh raiſed at Sir F. diſconcerted him more than all the arguments of all the council of England; and the mortification he felt upon the occaſion, could only be equalled by the pedant's *bulk* of learning being run down by the little *ſmack's* plain ſailing.

Your, &c. NINETEEN.

George's Coffee-houſe,
Feb. 10.

Hiſtorical Anecdotes of the private Lives of his MAJESTY *and his amiable* QUEEN.

SOON after our gracious monarch, George III. aſcended the throne, he became deſirous of ſecuring to this kingdom the bleſſing of a Proteſtant ſucceſſion.

Politicians, who are always fruitful in conjectures, anxious to have their ſovereign enter into the connubial ſtate, were buſied in endeavours to find out a lady worthy the heart and hand of a king, who ſeemed endued with every requiſite that might promiſe felicity to the fair one who had attractions ſufficient to gain and to keep his affections.

As external accompliſhments are always ſuppoſed to have a moſt powerful effect over the generality of mankind, the nation was tempted to ſingle out ſome graceful charmer, on whom nature was ſuppoſed to have conferred irreſiſtible beauties.

The diſpoſition of his majeſty was, however, unknown to theſe connoiſſeurs. Bleſſed with judgment, good ſenſe and penetration, our monarch proceeded with the greateſt deliberation. Conſcious that the alliance into which he was about to enter, would be productive of happineſs or miſery in *the extreme*, his majeſty determined not to permit the glare of corporal grace or figure to impoſe upon his ſenſes, or warp him from the purſuit of the more laſting embelliſhments of the heart. If domeſtic unhappineſs ſhould enſue, his majeſty's ſubjects might feel, indeed, a painful ſympathy for his misfortunes; but his majeſty himſelf would experience a kind of torture, not conceivable by thoſe who are ſtrangers, unleſs in theory, to the tormenting anguiſh of an aching heart.

Full of theſe refined ſentiments, our amiable monarch, after making the neceſſary inquiries, fixed his choice upon the princeſs Charlotte of Mecklenburgh-Strelitz.

The family of this illuſtrious and highly favoured lady had, in a variety of inſtances, ſhewn the greateſt attachment to our monarch's anceſtors, and zeal for the Proteſtant cauſe. No *national* objection, therefore, could be made to this alliance; and, when the intellectual merits of the princeſs became more univerſally known, it was not doubted but every wellwiſher to his majeſty would highly approve the marriage.

The princeſs Charlotte had given ſeveral diſtinguiſhing proofs of the refinement of her taſte, the ſolidity of her judgment, and the perfections of her mind. His majeſty had an opportunity of *firſt* becoming acquainted with theſe good qualities of the princeſs, by the means of a letter which ſhe wrote to the Pruſſian monarch, when he entered the territories of her couſin the duke of Mecklenburgh-Schwerin. This letter was

shew, that the praises lavishly bestowed upon the princess Charlotte, were founded on truth. We shall favour our readers with a transcript of the original - it may be deemed a royal literary curiosity, and will ever be new on account of its manifold beauties*.

To the King of PRUSSIA.

"*May it please your Majesty,*

"I am at a loss whether I shall congratulate or condole with you on your late victory, since the same success that has covered *you* with laurels, has overspread *my country* with desolation.

"I know, Sire, that it seems unbecoming my *sex*, in this age of *vicious refinement*, to feel for one's country, to lament the horrors of war, or wish for the return of peace. I know you may think it more properly my province to study the *art of pleasing*, or to turn my thoughts to subjects of a more domestic nature; but, however unbecoming it may be in me, I cannot resist the desire of interceding for this unhappy people.

"It was but a few years since this territory wore the most pleasing appearance; the country was cultivated, the peasant looked chearful, and the towns abounded with riches and festivity: What an alteration at present from such a charming scene! I am not expert at description, nor can my fancy add any horrors to the picture; but sure even conquerors themselves would weep at the hideous prospect now before me. The whole country, my dear country! lies one frightful waste, presenting only objects to excite terror, pity and despair. The business of the husbandman and the shepherd are quite discontinued; the husbandman and the shepherd are become soldiers themselves, and help to ravage the soil they formerly cultivated. The towns are inhabited only by old men, women and children; perhaps here and there a warrior, by wounds or loss of limbs, rendered unfit for service, is left at his door; his little children hang round him, ask an history of every wound, and grow themselves soldiers before they find strength for the field. But this were nothing, did we not feel the alternate insolence of *either* army, as it happens to advance or retreat, in pursuing the operations of the campaign. It is impossible to express the confusion even those who call themselves our friends create; even those from whom we might expect redress, oppress us with new calamities.

"From your justice, therefore, it is that we hope for relief: To you even children and women may complain, whose humanity stoops to the meanest petition, and whose power is capable of repressing the greatest injustice.

I am, SIRE, &c."

This epistle the king of Prussia sent over to our monarch, who no sooner perused it, than he broke out in raptures, and expressed himself to a nobleman present, in the following terms: "This H---------- is the lady whom I shall select for my consort---here are *lasting* beauties---the man who has any mind may *feast* and not be *satiated*. If the *disposition* of the princess but equals her *refined sense*, I shall be the happiest man, as I hope, with my people's concurrence, to be the greatest monarch in Europe."

That his majesty had great reason for his favourable opinion, appears evidently from the letter; which, considering the youth of the princess, is certainly a most wonderful excellent composition; and that our monarch's prophecy, relative to his own felicity, has been completely fulfilled, is clear from the harmony in which this royal couple have lived ever since the day they avowed fidelity to each other.

When the nuptial knot was tied, queen Charlotte, far from being elated at her exaltation, shewed, by her extreme affability and condescension, a mind infinitely superior even to royalty. Her engaging behaviour endeared her to all ranks of people, whilst her innocent and virtuous disposition gained so much upon the affections of her royal consort, that he became enamoured to an excess of fondness, and each revolving day increased his happiness as it increased his years.

As the German ladies are generally prolific, her majesty has produced a numerous brood of fondlings. Unlike, in most things, to our fashionable dames, her majesty scorns to leave the manage-

* *Though we published this Letter formerly* [Vol. vii. P. 46.], *yet, as a great number of our present readers may not have seen it, and the most essential article of these anecdotes is connected with it, we could not avoid re-inserting it here.*

ment of her offspring to an unfeeling nurſe, or a prattling giddy waiting-woman. The queen watches over her helpleſs innocents, and, with all the ſoft ſolicitude of maternal tenderneſs, guides their infant ſteps with a mother's foſtering hand. Her majeſty is truly ſenſible, that, as ſhe cannot transfer her feelings, ſo neither can ſhe her anxiety for her children's welfare to another; and that ſhe abhors the opinion, too univerſally received amongſt the ladies, that "attending upon infants is a ſervile drudgery," will appear from the following genuine anecdote.

In a converſation which paſſed between the queen and a certain ducheſs, her majeſty expreſſed an aſtoniſhment, that the ladies intruſted their children, when they took an airing, to the care of ſervants, and were ſo ſeldom ſeen with them themſelves. The ducheſs inclined to vindicate the practice; her majeſty interrupted her with this ſenſible admonition: "You are (ſaid ſhe) a mother---you converſe with a mother---and I ſhould be ſorry you would force me to ſuppoſe you *callous*, where you ought to be *moſt ſuſceptible*."

There is ſuch an admirable uniformity in the diſpoſitions of the royal pair, their minds are formed in ſuch perfect *uniſon* to each other, that, allowing for the difference ariſing from the perplexing affairs of government, it is impoſſible to pourtray the character of the *one*, without including, at the ſame time, that of the *other*.

The frequency of divorces, and the infidelity of either ſex, ſhocks his majeſty's nature. He hath not been bred in the ſchool of quibbling; he hath not been taught to conceive, that libertiniſm and licentiouſneſs was culpable only in the *females*. His majeſty juſtly concludes, that the *man* cannot eſtrange his affections, without violating, in every reſpect, the matrimonial contract. The multiplied infidelities, of late years, have moſt ſenſibly affected our monarch, whoſe expanded heart ſympathiſes with every misfortune under which his people labours. His majeſty is known to ſhudder whenever he ſigns a warrant for a felon's execution; and he not long ſince declared, that "he never aſſented to a bill, praying for a divorce, but with an internal kind of reluctance."

It is not an eaſy taſk to decide, whether his majeſty is moſt exemplary as a *father* or an *huſband*. Conſidered in the character of the latter, he is all ſoftneſs, all affection, all indulgence, and has a heart ſuſceptible of every domeſtic pleaſure. As a father, he is ſevere without being moroſe, familiar without at all relaxing his paternal authority, and affectionate without that weakneſs which makes youth but too preſuming.

His majeſty takes a laborious pains in the culture of his children's minds. He is truly ſenſible of the neceſſity of *bending the twig when young*, if we are deſirous of its having the proper ſhape ever after. When the king's other avocations, therefore, will permit him leiſure, he employs it uſually in giving his progeny ſuch inſtructions as their infant minds are capable of receiving; for his majeſty has frequently obſerved, that "it is chiefly owing to the parent if the children are devoid of proper principles."

It would be needleſs to recapitulate every minute occurrence, as we mean not to write an hiſtory of our ſovereign's life, but only to ſketch out his excellencies, for others to copy after ſo truly an illuſtrious example. As, however, our readers may be ſolicitous to attend our monarch into his moſt private receſſes, we have endeavoured to procure every information which we thought might gratify their curioſity.

In winter his majeſty uſually riſes betwixt ſix and ſeven, and retires to his devotions in a private apartment, where he continues near an hour. In ſummer his majeſty ſeldom lies longer than ſix. After breakfaſt his majeſty dreſſes, and attends the public buſineſs, if any. Afterwards he has his children brought to him, and then retires to his ſtudy to proſecute ſome new and ingenious diſcovery, or attend to the converſation of ſome man of ſcience and knowledge.

The queen generally ſpends the forenoon with her little ones; and, as ſhe is to the laſt degree ingenious, ſhe is generally employed about drawing, or the moſt curious kind of needle-work, the latter of which is her favourite amuſement.

The king is remarkably temperate, ſeldom indulging himſelf in more than four glaſſes of wine at dinner, and a little wine and water at ſupper. The afternoon, if no ſtate affairs require his conſultation, his majeſty ſpends in reading ſome favourite author to the queen, who has given the beſt proof that ſhe the-

roughly understands our language, by conceiving the greatest attachment to Shakespeare's most esteemed plays.

As his majesty was taught to speak with all the graces of oratory by the celebrated Quin, persons who have had access to his royal presence declare, that the king reads and speaks more like a professor of eloquence than a monarch, who might be supposed somewhat softened with the luxury of a court.

After supper his majesty and the queen join in private devotions, and, after perusing each some moral or religious author, they retire early to rest.

Such is the life, such the disposition of our amiable sovereign. His court is not filled with "Bacchus and his noisy revellers." It is not an eastern seraglio. It is the residence of virtue, science and religion. He is the father of a well-governed family, the fond, the affectionate husband of the most meritorious lady in the British dominions. Their days are spent in social comforts, and each rising morn they experience "high-flavoured joys," proceeding from heart-felt delight.

It is not possible to view this happy pair, without becoming converts to Hymen, and praising the connubial state in the language of Milton:

Hail, wedded love! mysterious law, true source
Of human offspring, sole propriety
In paradise! of all things common else, &c. &c.

POETRY.

REFLECTIONS *on the* DEATH *of a* FRIEND.

IS then the order given, the sure decree
Pronounc'd to set th' imprison'd spirit free?
Which long on earth, clogg'd with unwieldy clay,
Now mounts, unfetter'd to the realms of day;
Where death has no dominion; where the sun
Of glory shines, and never shall go down.
Adieu, dear friend! thy task on earth is done,
Thy warfare's ended, and thy race is run:
Like must to like; to dust thy dust returns,
While thy free'd spirit now no longer mourns
Those num'rous ills, diseases, griefs and cares,
Which all partake of in this vale of tears;
And, tho' weak reason fails their ends to scan,
By gracious heav'n ordain'd in love to man.
Amidst those flaming wonders that surprise
Thy ravish'd thought, and on each side arise,
Immensely bright; (wonders lock'd up below
From divine or philosopher to know);
Say, happy soul! in such a glorious draught
Of pleasure, can'st thou send one pitying thought
To this poor mole-hill, where thy cold remains
Wait their re-union; where, in toils and pains,
Millions still struggle---all the sons of time,
Doom'd to be suff'rers in this sickly clime.
What wondrous scenes, since that sad solemn day,
When the last debt to nature thou didst pay,
Have open'd to thy view?--Thy prospect now
Of earth and its felicities, how low!
How low appear wealth, kingdoms, crowns and fame!
Earth's dim delights, ambition's cursed aim;
Which, ill-directed, sets the world on fire,
And thousands daily in its cause expire;
Thoughtless they rush, where danger calls, to seize
Delusive toys and unsubstantial praise.
What dire mistake! their hopes how false, how vain,
Who seek true glory from such scenes to gain!
With what a damp their air-built fabrics falls
When death in all its awful terrors calls!

While humbler ſouls, in cottages obſcure,
Drink deeper in ambition---yet more pure;
Their undeluding draughts inſpire the ſoul
With views which no misfortune can controul.
O'er mortal crowns their high-born hope aſcends,
Bleſs'd with ſucceſs; their ſole ambition tends
To gain thoſe ſunny regions, gilt with beams
Of glory uncreated; where the ſtreams
Of *life*, dividing in ten thouſand rills,
With peace ſupreme, the happy climate fills:
Where *Paradiſe*, diveſted of its guard,
Blooms with redoubl'd joys, the ſaint's reward.
Its fruits immortal- -no forbidden tree--
And open'd, great *Redeemer*, wide by thee;
By thee the wearied ſoul's refreſhing balm,
From life's perplexing ſtorms a refuge ſure and calm.
May thy all-ſov'reign goodneſs be our ſtay,
And thro' this thorny deſart point our way;
May hopes of heav'n bear down earth's boiſt'rous tide,
And chriſtian graces all our actions guide.
Theſe, only theſe, our forfeit rights regain,
Loud conſcience quell, our darken'd hearts ſerene;
Take off death's ſting, the loathſome grave perfume,
And make loſt Eden's wither'd wilds rebloom.

Doune, Feb. 1772. W. W.

ANSWER *to the* NEW-YEAR'S DAY EPISTLE. [P. 211.]

STRANGE change indeed! witneſs ye ſacred pow'rs,
Who know each heart, the taſk is only yours.
Our various paſſions oft miſlead the way
As clouds obſcure the brighteſt beams of day.
Come, god-like Truth! with thy majeſtic train.
Support a heart that ever own'd thy reign:
'Tis true, too true, nor will I ſcorn to own
My ſole affection plac'd on you alone;
Your joys were mine, your griefs forbade my reſt,
While pleaſure fled, with all your cares oppreſs'd.
Had death then ſnatch'd you from my faithful breaſt,
My ſighs and tears had ſooth'd your ſoul to reſt:
Loſt to the world, I'd ſought your much lov'd ſhade,
Till the cold grave receiv'd my hapleſs head.
While thus I lov'd, a fair one more unkind
Engag'd that heart was once to me aſſign'd;
Tumultuous paſſions in my breaſt then ſtrove,
This hour I hate; the next was forc'd to love.
Pride, indignation, now my boſom fires,
While memory quickens ſoftneſs too expires.
But huſh my heart; this dear, this beſt of men
Forgets his vows; ah! blot it out my pen!
His mem'ry treach'rous, the evaſion mean,
But I'll forgive; nay, wiſh it ne'er had been.
This conſtant heart no new attachment knows,
No treach'rous man ſhall triumph in its woes;
Virtue alone ſhall all my actions move,
And you, even you, my conduct ſhall approve.
Your fatal pray'r will ne'er to heav'n aſcend;
For pitying heav'n will bleſs me with a friend.
Had you no friend in your declining years,
I'd mourn your fate, and waſh your ſtains with tears.

C

On the Return of SPRING.

GRIM winter's ſcene is now withdrawn,
And beauteous Spring begins to dawn.
The ſhips are launch'd into the main,
And nature decks her form again.

The fire no more delights the ſwain,
But flocks bound o'er th' enamel'd plain.
The birds frequent the verdant groves;
And beaſts renew their genial loves.
Phœbus, return'd, his influence yields,
To chear the glebe, or paint the fields.
Now, whilſt the ſilver lamp of night
O'er earth diſplays her ſacred light,
Bright Venus thro' the blooming meads
With nymphs her myſtic dances leads;
Their joyful gambols o'er the green
Adorn the vernal, lively ſcene;
Whilſt the gay ſportive god of love,
And modeſt graces round her move;
And jovial Fauns and Satyrs bound
With ſteps alternate o'er the ground.
Where, in the caverns deep below,
The roaring flames of Ætna glow,
Vulcan the toilſome forge inſpires,
With ecchoing blows and hiſſing fires;
And Cyclops in that dread abode
New thunder haſten for their God.
With myrtle deck'd, 'midſt fragrant bow'rs
We'll crown our heads with riſing flow'rs;
To mirth's enchantments we'll reſign,
And drown our cares in roſy wine.
Then ſhall a grateful ſacrifice
In curling fumes aſcend the ſkies,
Offer'd to all the ſylvan pow'rs
In their ambroſial ſacred bow'rs.
Short bounds of life are ſet to man:
'Tis mirth alone muſt ſtretch our ſpan.
Then, Sextius, live 'ere 'tis too late;
For ſoon, my friend, impartial fate
Perhaps will ſtrike the mortal blow,
And ſnatch thee to the realms below;
Where once arriv'd no ſprightly bowl
Shall crown thy joy-exalted ſoul;
No more ſhalt thou the fair admire
With bliſsful love, or ſoft deſire.

The FEMALE WISH.

GRANT me, ye gods, a calm retreat,
Where I may paſs my days,
Far from the low mean follies of the great,
Free from the vulgar's envious hate,
And careleſs of their praiſe.

Bleſs'd with a faithful female friend,
Thus let my time ſlide on:
But when my ev'ning ſun ſhall downward tend,
And fleeting life is at an end,
I'll quietly be gone.

Juſt ſo ſome tender bloſſom that has ſtood
In the receſſes of ſome ſecret wood,
Unruffled by the winds, feels ſlow decay,
Hangs down its head and gently dies away.

Dumfries, March 9. Z---n.

THE REVIEW.

A Miſcellany of EASTERN LEARNING. *Tranſlated from* Turkiſh, Arabian *and* Perſian *Manuſcripts, in the Library of the King of France. By M.* CARDONNE, *Secretary and Interpreter of the Oriental Languages to his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, &c. Tranſlated into Engliſh.* 2 vols. 12mo.

MONSIEUR Cardonne ſays, that, in compoſing this work, he has tranſlated from ſeveral Turkiſh, Arabian, and Perſian manuſcripts, in the French king's library, thoſe pieces that appeared to him moſt intereſting; and has given the preference to ſuch as treated of moral and political virtues: and inſtances will be met with, in thoſe hiſtorical anecdotes, of greatneſs of ſoul, generoſity, juſtice and fortitude, that do honour to human nature.

The following pieces are ſelected for the preſent entertainment of our readers.

An extraordinary Inſtance of Juſtice performed by the Sultan Sandjar.

THE Eaſt has ſeen few princes reign, ſo renowned for equity as the ſultan Sandjar*, ſon of Melekchahle Selgiucides, as will appear by the following hiſtory.

The ſultan Sandjar, after a bloody war, wherein he had given the moſt ſtriking proofs of valour and ability, entered the city of Zalika in triumph, followed by his victorious army, and met by his people without the walls, to teſtify their joy for his ſafe return.

In the neighbourhood of this city was a cupula of a prodigious height, ſupport-

* *He was ſirnamed the ſecond* Alexander.

ed by forty marble columns. As the troops marched off at the foot of this dome, the ſon of a poor derviſe, the better to obſerve them paſs along, was mounted upon the top of it. The ſultan, paſſing near this building, perceived ſomething perched upon the very extremity, and, imagining it to be a bird, had a mind, being expert with his bow, to ſhew his dexterity to the people: He let fly an arrow with ſo much force, that it reached the boy, and brought him headlong to the ground, covered with blood. What was the aſtoniſhment, or rather, what the ſorrow and deſpair of the prince, when he beheld the ſhocking ſpectacle! he immediately quitted his horſe, and, throwing himſelf on the body of the youth, expreſſed the deepeſt grief. He ſent directly for the child's father, and, taking him by the hand, conveyed him to his tent, where he ſhut himſelf up with the derviſe alone; then taking a purſe of gold, and laying his naked ſabre upon the ſame table by it: "You behold in me (ſaid he to the derviſe) the murderer of your ſon: I 'might vindicate myſelf, by aſſuring you 'that I did not premeditately deſign to 'kill him; but my crime, by being involuntary, is not the leſs afflictive to 'you, as it loads you with the heavieſt 'calamity a father can ſuffer: you know 'the law; if, agreeable to the liberty it 'gives, you permit me to commute for 'the blood of your unhappy ſon, there 'is the gold; but if, reſolved to inforce 'the utmoſt rigour of the law, you require blood for blood, behold my 'ſabre, take away my life: I have taken 'the precaution, that you may have nothing to fear in quitting my tent."—— "Ah! my lord (cried the derviſe, flinging himſelf at the monarch's feet), if 'you are above the reſt of mankind in 'dignity, you yet ſurpaſs them more in 'equity. God forbid that I ſhould raiſe 'a ſacrilegious hand againſt my prince, 'who is the life and ſoul of his kingdom; my unfortunate ſon has undergone the melancholy lot written from 'the beginning of time in the book of 'deſtiny †; your majeſty is not guilty of 'his death; far from receiving the price 'of it, I ſhould eſteem myſelf happy, if, 'by the ſacrifice of my own life, I could 'preſerve that of a prince, good and 'equitable as your majeſty."—"Your 'diſintereſtedneſs (anſwered the ſultan, 'in aſtoniſhment) merits reward, and I 'appoint you governor of the city of 'Zalika. Men who ſurpaſs others in 'noble ſentiments are born to command 'them."

† *The* Muſſulmans *believe, that the fate of all men is written in a book with indelible characters, which they call the* Book of Deſtinies. *To reconcile the doctrine of predeſtination with free-will,* Huſein Vaz, *one of their moſt famous doctors ſays, That, often we have made an improper uſe of our liberty, we loſe the power of performing ſuch good actions as we wiſh. He compares our liberty to a bridle held in the rider's hand, by means whereof he turns to the right and left, as he pleaſes: but he no ſooner lets go the reins, than his horſe runs away with him, and follows his natural impetuoſity. The* Arabian *proverb upon fate is, That, when God will execute his reſolution, the ſagacity of the wiſeſt men is ſuſpended till his decrees are accompliſhed. A* Turkiſh *poet thus expreſſes himſelf upon this ſubject: "When the Almighty power of God has launched the arrows of his decree, there is no other ſhield that can ward off the blow but obedience to his will."*

An extraordinary inſtance of Generoſity in an Egyptian.

A CONFLAGRATION having reduced to aſhes one of the principal moſques of Cairo, the Muſſulmans imputed this calamity to the hatred of the Chriſtians; and, without examining whether ſuch an accuſation was well founded or not, ſeveral young people ran to the quarter inhabited by the Chriſtians, and ſet fire to it by way of reprial.

Such an outrage deſerved the ſevereſt puniſhment: the governor cauſed the perpetrators to be apprehended; but, as the number was very great, he could not reſolve to doom to death ſo many young perſons, who were hurried into this exceſs more by paſſion than malice.

As many lots were thrown into an urn as amounted to the number of the culprits: ſome few of theſe were marked, death; and all the others condemned the drawers to the correction only of rods.

When they had all drawn their lots out of the fatal urn, one of thoſe deſtined to death cried out in a tranſport of

grief, "I do not regret the loss of life; 'but how will my parents, overwhelm-'ed with sorrow, and reduced to the 'greatest misery, be able to live without 'my assistance."

One of those that had escaped death, replied to him that was lamenting his fate, "Friend, I have neither father nor 'mother; my life is of no use to any 'one; give me your lot, and take mine." The surprising sacrifice excited the admiration of every one present, and the governor, who was soon informed of it, pardoned both the criminals.

The cruel Jealousy of an Arab *of the Desart.*

AN Arab of the Desart became violently enamoured of a young woman who was not of his tribe. The law absolutely forbade such an alliance; but his constancy, and the ardour of his passion, surmounted this obstacle. As he was richer than her he was in love with, the parents of the woman obtained leave to supersede the general law, and the lover became happy, if happiness can exist in a breast tormented with jealousy.

The husband soon discovered that he had a potent rival: discontented love, so much resembling hatred, persuaded him to banish both himself and wife to the inmost recesses of the desart. He set out with her, and, after a journey of several days, he chose for his residence a place the more agreeable to his eyes, as it was perfectly solitary, and far remote from any habitation.

Scarce had he pitched his tent, under which was reposing that wife who caused him so much pleasure and so much pain, when he perceived at a distance three men on horseback, and among them his rival: inflamed with anger, he attacked the foremost, in spite of the inequality of numbers, and was soon wounded in several places. In selling his life dearly, he had wounded his rival also; and, while his friends were assisting him, the furious Arab crept into his tent; his wife flying to his relief; "Die with me '(said he, fixing his eyes, full of love 'and fury, on her), rather than become 'the prey of an infamous robber." At these words he plunged his dagger into her breast; their blood mingling together, flowed profusely around, and they expired at the same time in sight of the ravisher, who reaped no fruit but his wounds from the criminal enterprize.

JUNIUS's DEDICATION *to the* ENGLISH NATION, *prefixed to a new Edition of his Letters, with the author's Corrections, &c. just published.*

I DEDICATE to you a collection of letters, written by one of yourselves for the common benefit of us all. They would never have grown to this size, without your continued encouragement and applause. To me they originally owe nothing but a healthy, sanguine constitution. Under *your* care they have thriven. To *you* they are indebted for whatever strength or beauty they possess. When kings and ministers are forgotten, when the force and direction of personal satire is no longer understood, and when measures are only felt in their remotest consequences, this book will, I believe, be found to contain principles, worthy to be transmitted to posterity. When you leave the unimpaired hereditary freehold to your children, you do but half your duty. Both liberty and property are precarious, unless the possessors have sense and spirit enough to defend them. This is not the language of vanity. If I am a vain man, my gratification lies within a narrow circle. I am the sole depositary of my own secret, and it shall perish with me.

If an honest, and, I may truly affirm, a laborious zeal for the public service has given me any weight in your esteem, let me exhort and conjure you never to suffer an invasion of your political constitution, however minute the instance may appear, to pass by, without a determined, persevering resistance. One precedent creates another.—They soon accumulate and constitute law. What yesterday was fact, to-day is doctrine. Examples are supposed to justify the most dangerous measures, and where they do not suit exactly, the defect is supplied by analogy. Be assured that the laws, which protect us in our civil rights, grow out of the constitution, and that they must fall or flourish with it. This is not the cause of faction, or of party, or of any individual, but the common interest of every man in Britain. Although the king should continue to support his present system of government, the period is not very distant, at which you will have the means of redress in your own power. It may be nearer perhaps than any of us expect; and I would warn you to be prepared

for it. The king may poſſibly be adviſed to diſſolve the preſent parliament a year or two before it expires of courſe, and precipitate a new election, in hopes of taking the nation by ſurpriſe. If ſuch a meaſure be in agitation, this very caution may defeat or prevent it.

I cannot doubt that you will unanimouſly aſſert the freedom of election, and vindicate your excluſive right to chuſe your repreſentatives. But other queſtions have been ſtarted, on which your determination ſhould be equally clear and unanimous. Let it be impreſſed upon your minds, let it be inſtilled into your children, that the liberty of the preſs is the *palladium* of all the civil, political, and religious rights of an Engliſhman, and that the right of juries to return a general verdict, in all caſes whatſoever, is an eſſential part of our conſtitution, not to be controuled or limited by the judges, nor in any ſhape queſtionable by the legiſlature. The power of king, lords and commons, is not an arbitrary power*. They are the truſtees, not the owners of the eſtate. The fee ſimple is in us. They cannot alienate, they cannot waſte. When we ſay that the legiſlature is *ſupreme*, we mean that it is the higheſt power known to the conſtitution;---that it is the higheſt in compariſon with the other ſubordinate powers eſtabliſhed by the laws. In this ſenſe, the word *ſupreme* is relative, not abſolute. The power of the legiſlature is limited, not only by the general rules of natural juſtice, and the welfare of the community, but by the forms and principles of our particular conſtitution. If this doctrine be not true, we muſt admit, that king, lords, and commons, have no rule to direct their reſolutions, but merely their own will and pleaſure. They might unite the legiſlative and executive power in the ſame hands, and diſſolve the conſtitution by an act of parliament. But I am perſuaded you will not leave it to the choice of ſeven hundred perſons, notoriouſly corrupted by the crown, whether ſeven millions of their equals ſhall be freemen or ſlaves. The certainty of forfeiting their own rights, when they ſacrifice thoſe of the nation, is no check to a brutal, degenerate mind. Without inſiſting upon the extravagant conceſſion made to Harry VIII. there are inſtances, in the hiſtory of other countries, of a formal, deliberate ſurrender of the public liberty into the hands of the ſovereign. If England does not ſhare the ſame fate, it is becauſe we have better reſources than in the virtue of either houſe of parliament.

I ſaid, that the liberty of the preſs is the *palladium* of all your rights, and that the right of the juries to return a general verdict is part of your conſtitution. To preſerve the whole ſyſtem, you muſt correct your legiſlature. With regard to any influence of the conſtituent over the conduct of the repreſentative, there is little difference between a ſeat in parliament for ſeven years, and a ſeat for life. The proſpect of your reſentment is too remote; and although the laſt ſeſſion of a ſeptennial parliament be uſually employed in courting the favour of the people, conſider that, at this rate, your repreſentatives have ſix years for offence, and but one for atonement. A death-bed repentance ſeldom reaches to reſtitution. If you reflect that, in the changes of adminiſtration, which have marked and diſgraced the preſent reign, although your warmeſt patriots have, in their turn, been inveſted with the lawful and unlawful authority of the crown; and though other reliefs or improvements have been held forth to the people, yet that no one man in office has ever pro-

* *This poſitive denial of an arbitrary power being veſted in the legiſlature, is not in fact a new doctrine. When the earl of Lindſey, in the year 1675, brought a bill into the houſe of lords, "to prevent the dangers which might ariſe from perſons diſaffected to government," by which an oath and penalty was to be impoſed upon the members of both houſes, it was affirmed, in a proteſt ſigned by twenty-three lay-peers (my lords the biſhops were not accuſtomed to proteſt), "That the privilege of ſitting and voting in parliament was an honour they had by birth, and a right ſo inherent in them, and inſeparable from them, that nothing could take it away, but what, by the law of the land, muſt withal take away their lives, and corrupt their blood." Theſe noble peers, whoſe names are a reproach to their poſterity, have in this inſtance, ſolemnly denied the power of parliament to alter the conſtitution. Under a particular propoſition, they have aſſerted a general truth in which every man in England is concerned.*

moted or encouraged a bill for ſhortening the duration of parliaments, but that (whoever was miniſter) the oppoſition to this meaſure, ever ſince the ſeptennial act paſſed, has been conſtant and uniform on the part of government. You cannot but conclude, without the poſſibility of a doubt, that long parliaments are the foundation of the undue influence of the crown. This influence anſwers every purpoſe of arbitrary power to the crown, with an expence and oppreſſion to the people, which would be unneceſſary in an arbitrary government. The beſt of our miniſters find it the eaſieſt and moſt commodious mode of conducting the king's affairs; and all miniſters have a general intereſt in adhering to a ſyſtem, which of itſelf is ſufficient to ſupport them in office, without any aſſiſtance from perſonal virtue, popularity, labour, abilities, or experience. It promiſes every gratification to avarice and ambition, and ſecures impunity. Theſe are truths unqueſtionable. If they make no impreſſion, it is becauſe they are too vulgar and notorious. But the inattention or indifference of the nation has continued too long. You are rouſed at laſt to a ſenſe of your danger. The remedy will ſoon be in your power. If *Junius* lives, you ſhall often be reminded of it. If, when the opportunity preſents itſelf, you neglect to do your duty to yourſelves and to poſterity,---to God and to your country—I ſhall have one conſolation left, in common with the meaneſt and baſeſt of mankind---Civil liberty may ſtill ſave the life of JUNIUS.

THE POLITICAL CLUB.

THE opening of the preſent parliament proved very pacific. The king's ſpeech, at the ſame time that it announced the continuance of peace, was ſo cautiouſly worded, that it afforded no handle for oppoſition at home. The firſt queſtion that was agitated in the ſenate, and that engaged the public attention, was a petition from a body of the clergy, and ſome lawyers and phyſicians, praying relief in the matter of ſubſcription, and inſiſting that ſubſcriptions are an uſurpation upon the right of private judgment, and that there ought to be no other teſt but the ſcripture alone.---This debate we have already diſcuſſed [P. 278, 310.]

The next debate of conſequence was that occaſioned by a motion of Mr Seymour, for leave to bring up a bill to quiet the poſſeſſions of the ſubject againſt dormant claims of the church. The arguments of the miniſtry and their adherents, were theſe.

It is contended that *Nullum tempus occurrit regi*, and *nullum tempus occurrit eccleſiæ*, are maxims in law founded on the ſame principle; and that, as we have deſtroyed the former, we muſt, in order to be conſiſtent, deſtroy the latter. But let it be conſidered, that, when the ſtatute of limitations was made, this matter did not eſcape the attention of the legiſlature, and that, in all probability, our anceſtors were ſwayed by reaſons of the moſt weighty nature, not to include the church. Were there no ſettled revenue ſet apart for the crown; were the demeſne lands now, as formerly, its only ſupport, no man in his ſenſes would have thought of ſtripping it of the *nullum tempus* right, becauſe no man would have choſe to leave it defenceleſs, the conſtant effect of poverty and want. Why ſhould the church be treated with more ſeverity? It is no leſs neceſſary to the well-being of the community than the crown. States have ſubſiſted without royalty: But where is the ſtate that has been able to ſtand without religion? The inſtitution is certainly neceſſary; and, being neceſſary, it muſt be ſupported. Has any new proviſion been made for its maintenance, that you would thus remove its antient bulwark? Does the parliament ſettle upon it, as upon the crown, any civil liſt? Was it not ſufficiently ſtripped at the reformation? And do you mean to open a door for its being farther plundered? Our forefathers, when the church was new-modelled, intended that what was left ſhould remain for ever in its poſſeſſion; and, for that purpoſe, ordered that no length of time ſhould be a bar to its claims. Knowing that ſucceſſive incumbents might, by the peculiarity of its ſituation, ſuffer the patrimony of the church to be loſt, and come into lay-hands, they left this remedy for the re-

covery of her property. An incumbent is frequently a ſtranger in the place where he has a benefice; he is ignorant of the ſtate of his lands and tithes; and all his neighbours are intereſted in keeping him in ignorance. He is perhaps poor, or peaceable, or indolent, or timid, or fraught with gratitude to his patron; or perhaps he is all theſe together. What muſt, in this caſe, become of the property of the church, and of his ſucceſſor? They muſt evidently be ruined. Many of us thought it inexpedient to deprive the crown of this power, with which it was armed for its own defence; and ſome of us ſtill think that the ſtep was impolitic. Thoſe who voted for clipping the wings of the crown in this particular, becauſe they thought it too powerful and dangerous an engine in its hands, may yet with propriety vote againſt this motion, becauſe no danger can be apprehended from the power of the church; and theſe who voted againſt taking this power from the ſtrong, cannot with decency vote for taking it from the weak. The church has no title-deeds which deſcend from father to ſon, which are carefully preſerved, and mark out with preciſion the extent and limits of the inheritance, ſo that nothing can be eaſily loſt. Conſequently, the lands and tithes of the parochial clergy, one of the moſt uſeful claſſes of men in the nation, would, without this precaution, moulder away, and be reduced to a much ſmaller pittance than it is at this juncture. Yet is it not lamented by the whole nation, that they are not poſſeſſed of a larger proportion of the good things of this world? What then muſt we think of a regulation that reduces them to a much more diſtreſsful ſituation? Had it indeed been propoſed to eſtabliſh an office, where regiſters of their title-deeds, or diſtinct accounts of church-poſſeſſions, ſhould be kept, the plan would have merited our attention; but, inſtead of applying this remedy, the mover of the queſtion lays the axe to the root of the tree, and at once overturns the church's chief palladium. At the time that the ſtatute of limitations was made, the church had the power to alienate. The patron, the ordinary, and the incumbent, might exchange eccleſiaſtical property for a juſt equivalent; but, in order to prevent any injury to the ſucceeding generation from a colluſion, the *nullum tempus* was left as a power by which any fraudulent bargain might be ſet aſide. Hence the *nullum tempus occurrit regi*, and the *nullum tempus occurrit eccleſiæ*, have not the ſame foundation: and it is not therefore neceſſary that, for the ſake of conſiſtency, we ſhould bury them both in the ſame grave. A conſiderable alteration of our conſtitution is not to be attempted without ſome urgent neceſſity. It ought to have been ſhewn, that the power veſted in the clergy has been egregiouſly abuſed; and that they have been litigious and oppreſſive, and always ready to graſp at every ſtraw, to draw every thing into their own vortex. In a word, proofs ſhould have been produced of many vexations and iniquitous ſuits, grounded on the maxim in queſtion. Has this been done? One caſe only, and that not in point, has been laid before us. But how many inſtances are there of vexations and oppreſſive ſuits commenced and carried on by the laity againſt the clergy.

[*To be continued.*]

HISTORY.

MARCH 5.—TO 12.

TURKEY AND RUSSIA.

Conſtantinople, Jan. 17.

"IT is reported here that Ali Bey's troops have taken Jeruſalem, and that the robbers who infeſt Aſia Minor and Syria have carried off the magnificent preſent which is annually ſent from hence to Mecca.—It is ſaid that all the Ruſſian fleet is in the port of Faro. The new Pacha of Siliſtria, fearing the deſcent of the enemy on the coaſt of Romania, is gone to the gulph of Enos, with orders to aſſemble all the troops he can. The preparations for the opening of the enſuing campaign continue with great activity; but the end of a war ſo much to the diſadvantage of the em-

merce of this nation, is much wished for by all its inhabitants."

GERMANY.

Manheim, Feb. 20. "Near a village called Neder-Ulm, in our environs, the following unaccountable accident happened. A mountain, in the neighbourhood of the said village, sunk more than twenty feet below the surface of the land which surrounded it. The top, which was covered with trees, was thrown off more that 100 paces in a neighbouring field. The inhabitants of the village felt no commotion, but heard a noise like firing of cannon."

Hanover, Feb. 20. "His Britannic majesty, our august sovereign, taking into consideration the sufferings of his subjects in this electorate, from the great dearth of provisions, has been graciously pleased, by an ordinance, dated Jan. 8. 1772, to diminish the taxes to half the amount that was paid last year."

DENMARK.

Copenhagen, Feb. 22. "Yesterday morning the commission of inquiry went to the citadel, and opened their commission in the governor's house, for the examination of the state prisoners. They began with count Struensee, who was brought in the governor's coach about ten o'clock, from his place of confinement, guarded by two serjeants and four grenadiers with their bayonets fixed. He had on a blue suit of cloaths, and as he had not been shaved for five weeks, his beard was very long. At the entrance of the room where the commissioners sat, his chains were taken off, and he was permitted to sit down during his examination, which lasted till two o'clock, when he was sent back to prison; and at four o'clock he was brought again, when his examination continued till after seven in the evening. He shewed a great deal of uneasiness all the time of his going and coming from examination. All we can learn with respect to his examination is, that he denied the charge that was laid against him. He was shewn the instruments of torture he was to undergo, if he would not confess; but he said they would get little out of him by such means, as he always acted according to his conscience. One of the commissioners fell into a passion with him, to whom he replied, "That as he was cool, he hoped they would be so too," but at last he burst into tears, confessed his guilt, and begged for mercy. When he was ordered back to prison, he desired a little time might be allowed him to compose himself. Major Falckenschiold is taken into custody, and guarded in his house by two serjeants and four soldiers. He wrote a note to his brother the colonel, and gave it to his friseur, who put it under his neckcloth, but the officer observing it, took it and delivered it to the commissioners.

"The king's messenger, who was sent to London on the 18th of last month (Mr Brumer) is returned with dispatches of consequence. Every body is desirous to know whether the letters that are brought from London to the queen will be delivered to her at the castle of Cronenburg. The cabinet secretary Panning, since his examination, is closer confined than he was before; he cannot see his wife nor children.—Three secretaries are appointed to the commission for the more speedy execution of the trials of the state prisoners. More persons are taken into custody every day for conspiracy."

Hamburgh, Feb. 26. "We are assured that the sieur de Struensee, superintendant-general of the churches in the duchies of Slesvick and Holstein, was struck with an apoplectic fit, on hearing of the imprisonment of his son the count de Struensee, at Copenhagen, and died immediately.—The 15th Mr Keith had an audience of the king, in the presence of the privy-council, when he delivered to his majesty two letters, one from his Britannic majesty, and the other from the princess-dowager of Wales. The same evening the courier was sent back to London."

WEST-INDIES.

Extract of a letter from Montego Bay, to a gentleman in Jamaica, dated Nov. 2.

"There is very bad news arrived from the coast of Cuba. Two Spanish guarda costas have taken all the vessels on the coast belonging to this place and St Ann's, none of which made any resistance against them, except captain Bailey belonging to this place, who fought with them near two hours. The Spaniards delivered the wounded men and the boat they had taken, which is arrived here."

"A letter from Grenada, dated Dec. 8. mentions, that on governor Leybourne's arrival, a council was held, and the governor inſiſted on M. de Chantaloupe, a Roman Catholic, his being admitted a counſellor, without taking the teſt; he would not allow them to reaſon the matter, as he ſaid, ſince his majeſty had been pleaſed to diſpenſe with the oath, they had no right to queſtion it; on which ſix of the members left the council-chamber, and have ſince been ſuſpended in form.—This arbitrary proceeding is like to throw the whole iſland into a flame, and bad conſequences are to be feared."

AMERICA.

Charleſtown, Dec. 31. "Letters received over land from Penſacola, of Nov. 4. inform us, that the hon. John Stuart, Eſq; ſuperintendant of Indian affairs, had concluded a treaty with the Creek Indians, whereby they had ceded to his majeſty a large body of land, extending 30 miles up the Cooſaw river; in addition to the province of Weſt-Florida.

"His excellency the earl of Dunmore, governor of Virginia, has iſſued writs for calling a new aſſembly."

Charleſtown, Jan. 6. "Letters from North-Carolina inform us, that the general aſſembly of that province, now ſitting at Newbern, hath paſſed a bill for emitting 60,000 l. proclamation money, in paper bills of credit, to diſcharge the expences of the late expedition, and for other ſervices.—The commiſſioners of the ſilk manufacture have ſhipped in the Beauſain, Daniel Curling maſter, now ready to ſail for London, 453 lb. of exceeding fine raw ſilk, and 36 lb. of an ordinary quality, all of the growth and culture of Purryſburg in this province."

POSTSCRIPT *to* FOREIGN HISTORY.

Extract of a letter from a merchant at Mugadore, in South Barbary, to his friend in London, dated December 30. 1771.

"We are in the greateſt conſternation here, occaſioned by a late act of the emperor. It is ſaid that ſome Jews in your metropolis (in particular one who, in December 1770, was turned out of Gibraltar) ſent information to the emperor of his having been overcharged 50 per cent. in the invoice coſt of ſome goods provided him on commiſſion, in the courſe of ſome years paſt, from England, by the Engliſh merchants reſiding in this country. In conſequence of this information, the emperor has called up to Mequinez a principal Britiſh merchant here, and, contrary to all ſubſiſting treaties with Great Britain, has actually confined him there on this account. We are afraid this may have diſagreeable conſequences; and not knowing what it may come to, if you have not already diſpatched the ——, captain ——, freighted for this place, pleaſe to defer it until you hear further from me, &c."

ENGLAND.

LONDON, FEB. 29.—to MARCH 7.

A ſecret treaty is now forming between the courts of Vienna, Berlin, Madrid, and Holland; couriers are continually paſſing and repaſſing between the above courts, and their advices are received with the greateſt ſecrecy.

The prince of Brunſwick is ſaid to be very much indiſpoſed; and the laſt letters from the Hague ſay, his diſorder will terminate in a peripneumony, or an inflamation in the lungs.

A letter from Copenhagen ſays, "after count Struenſee was examined by the preſident of the council appointed for that purpoſe, the preſident made known to the king the reſult of the examination, which was, that the queen had been found to be guilty of infidelity, as well as of many high crimes againſt the ſtate; whereupon orders were immediately diſpatched to Cronenburg, commanding that the queen be very cloſely confined, and that all acceſs to her be denied. The count, it is here ſaid, will be beheaded in a few days before the very window of the caſtle in which her majeſty is confined. When the preſident went to the king, to inform him of the examination, he was at the levee, and on hearing the purport thereof, his majeſty ſhed tears, retired to another apartment, and was ſeen no more that day."

It is currently reported, that certain advices have been received, that a foreign count has abſolutely confeſſed his being criminally concerned with a great lady; in conſequence of which he is ſentenced to be beheaded under the lady's window, and it now ſeems no longer a doubt, that the lady herſelf, after firſt undergoing

trial, will be ſentenced to the ſame puniſhment. *St James's Chron.*

Yeſterday morning one of his majeſty's meſſengers arrived at the Queen's palace with ſome diſpatches from his excellency Mr Keith, his majeſty's ambaſſador at the court of Copenhagen.

A correſpondent ſays, "The ſilence of the miniſtry with regard to the diſpatches received from Denmark, makes it generally conjectured, that affairs are likely to go badly with the queen."

They write from Madrid, that very frequent meetings of the miniſtry are held at the Eſcurial in that city; at the laſt of which the earl of Grantham, the Britiſh ambaſſador, was preſent.

It is ſaid that a privy council was held yeſterday after the levee at St James's, in conſequence of advices from admiral Rodney on the Jamaica ſtation received yeſterday. Some diſpatches were ordered to be got ready with all poſſible ſpeed, to be ſent off to the above gentleman.

It is ſaid that the advices received from admiral Rodney, contain intelligence no ways pleaſing.

Intelligence has been received from the Weſt-Indies, that ſeveral Engliſh veſſels have been taken, and carried into different places, by Spaniſh guarda coſtas, under pretence of illicit trade.

Die Martis, 30. *Martij* 1772.

The order of the day being read for the third reading of the bill, intitled An Act for the better regulating the future marriages of the royal family, and for the lords to be ſummoned;

The ſaid bill was accordingly read the third time.

Propoſed that the ſaid bill do paſs, which being objected to after long debate.—The queſtion was put, whether this bill ſhall paſs.

It was reſolved in the affirmative.

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[Againſt which a number of lords entered a proteſt, whoſe reaſons of diſſent ſhall be given in our next.]

On the 5th the bill for regulating the marriages of the royal family was brought from the houſe of lords to the commons, by lord chief baron Parker and baron Smith. Baron Parker ſaid, the lords had commanded them to bring to that honourable houſe that bill, the title of which he read and delivered in, and then they retired.—After ſeveral debates the bill was read a firſt time, and a ſecond reading was moved and carried. A motion was then made for printing the bill, upon which, after long debates, the houſe was divided, when there appeared,

For printing 109; againſt it 193.

ACT *for the better regulating the future Marriages of the Royal Family.*

"*Moſt gracious Sovereign,*

"WHEREAS your majeſty, from your paternal affection to your own family, and from your royal concern for the future welfare of your people, and the honour and dignity of your crown, was graciouſly pleaſed to recommend to your parliament, to take into their ſerious conſideration, whether it might not be wiſe and expedient to ſupply the defect of the laws now in being, and by ſome new proviſions, more effectually to guard the deſcendants of his late majeſty king George the ſecond (other than the iſſue of princeſſes who have married, or may hereafter marry, into foreign families) from marrying without the approbation of your majeſty, your heirs or ſucceſſors, firſt had and obtained.

"We have taken this weighty matter into our ſerious conſideration, and being ſenſible that marriages in the royal family are of the higheſt importance to the ſtate, and that therefore the kings of this realm have ever been intruſted with the care and approbation thereof; and being thoroughly convinced of the wiſdom and expediency of what your majeſty has thought fit to recommend upon this occaſion.

"We, your majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the lords ſpiritual and temporal, and commons, in this preſent parliament aſſembled, do humbly beſeech your majeſty, that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the king's moſt excellent majeſty, by and with the advice and conſent of the lords ſpiritual and temporal, and commons, in this preſent parliament aſſembled, and by the authority of the ſame, that no deſcendant of the body of his late majeſty king George the ſecond, being the grand-children and preſumptive heirs of the reigning king, male or female (other than the iſſue of princeſſes who have married, or may hereafter marry, into foreign families), ſhall be capable of contracting matrimony, without previous conſent of his ma-

jeſty, his heirs or ſucceſſors, ſignified under his or their ſign manual, and declared in council (which conſent, the better to preſerve the memory thereof, is hereby directed to be ſet out in the licence and regiſter of marriage, and to be entered in the books of the privy council), and that every marriage, or matrimonial contract, of any ſuch deſcendant, without ſuch conſent firſt had and obtained, ſhall be null and void, to all intents and purpoſes whatſoever.

"Provided always, and be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid, that in caſe any ſuch deſcendant of the body of his late majeſty king George the ſecond, being above the age of twenty-five years, ſhall perſiſt in his, or her reſolution, to contract a marriage, diſapproved of, or diſſented from, by the king, his heirs, or ſucceſſors, that then ſuch deſcendant, upon giving notice to the king's privy council, which notice is hereby directed to be entered in the books thereof, may, at any time, from the expiration of twelve calendar months after ſuch notice given to the privy council aforeſaid, contract ſuch marriage; and his or her marriage, with the perſon before propoſed and rejected, may be duly ſolemnized, and ſhall be good without the previous conſent of his majeſty, his heirs or ſucceſſors, as if this act had never been made, unleſs both houſes of parliament ſhall, before the expiration of twelve months, expreſsly declare their diſapprobation of ſuch intended marriage.

"And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, that every perſon who ſhall knowingly, or wilfully, preſume to ſolemnize, or to aſſiſt, or be preſent, at the celebration of any marriage with any ſuch deſcendant, or at his or her making any matrimonial contract, without ſuch conſent as aforeſaid firſt had and obtained, except in the caſes above mentioned, ſhall be duly convicted thereof, incur and ſuffer the pains and penalties ordained and provided by the ſtatute of proviſions and præmunire, made in the ſixteenth year of the reign of Richard the ſecond."

On the 25th Mr Sawbridge made his motion for ſhortening the duration of parliament; he began as far back as the time of the Saxons, and gave a very good hiſtorical account of the duration of parliament under the different reign; and then, at laſt, came to the preſent; where he obſerved (having in ſome of the reigns taken notice of the improper uſe of prerogative) ironically, the *proper* uſes that may be made of prerogative; and ſaid, that now it was a proper uſe of prerogative to deny the diſſolution of parliament, though at the requeſt of the conſtituents themſelves; that it was now a proper uſe of prerogative to iſſue an illegal proclamation: and when he went on with the ſame introduction of the proper uſe of prerogative, to the ſeveral acts that had been done contrary to law in the preſent reign, mentioning the *noli proſequi* in the affair of the city laſt year; the proroguing of parliament in Ireland; the refuſing mercy to the weavers that were condemned for the riot, though recommended by the court for mercy; the ſcreening people from trial for the murder in St George's-fields; and many other things of the like kind, which he mentioned, and which he termed, in an ironical ſtile, as proper uſes of prerogative, at leaſt thought ſo in theſe times.

Mr Townſhend ſeconded the motion, and ſaid, that his friend had moved it as a great conſtitutional queſtion, and he hoped it would be conſidered as ſuch; for his part, he ſhould always conſider that queſtion as one of the greateſt that could come before that houſe; to make elections frequent would be to make them free; as his worthy friend and brother alderman had ſaid ſo much upon the ſubject, he ſhould content himſelf with ſeconding it.

Mr Cox got up and obſerved, that he could not think the honourable gentleman had gone far enough; that it was the corruption of the times that would prevent a free election; that had he moved, or could find out a way to aboliſh that, he would readily join him in the preſent queſtion; but whilſt that ſubſiſted, he could not come into the preſent queſtion, as giving any proſpect of a more free election and repreſentation than at preſent. The houſe divided; No's 251; Ay's 83.

Laſt night a meeting of the pr——ing lords was held; and ſeveral other perſons of the higheſt diſtinction were preſent. They did not break up till after twelve.

Motion made, and queſtion put, in the houſe of commons, that leave be given to bring in a bill for amending and rendering more effectual the ſeveral laws now in being for the better obſervation

of the Lord's day —The houſe divided; Ay's 41, No's 3.

On Wednesday there was a very numerous meeting of the proprietors of Eaſt-India ſtock at their houſe in Leadenhall-ſtreet. The court opened at twelve o'clock, and after the clerk had, as uſual, read over the minutes of the laſt meeting, the chairman acquainted the proprietors, "that as the directors had hinted to the proprietary the laſt court, that the affairs in Bengal were in a diſagreeable ſituation, and that the remedying them was then under conſideration; he was now to acquaint them, that after much debate and attention, the directors, with the advice of ſome of the moſt learned in the law in theſe kingdoms, had digeſted a plan for their better regulation, which, with their concurrence, was ready to be laid before the parliament." The opinion of the court being to have them read, the clerk accordingly read them, of which the following form the principal articles:

"That the preſident and council of 'Bengal ſhould not, for the future, be 'permitted to trade in any one reſpect 'whatſoever; that eighteen months 'time ſhould be allowed them to ſell 'off ſuch goods as might ly upon their 'hands, and collect in their debt; and 'for the due obſervance of this, they 'were to take an oath declarative of the 'above, the breaking of which, was to 'ſubject them to all the conſequences of 'perjury, as by law eſtabliſhed, as well 'as fines and impriſonment.

"That every free merchant ſhould, 'on the commencement of this act, be 'obliged to take out a freſh licence, un-'der ſuch reſtrictions as the preſident 'and council ſhould think fit, under the 'penalty of fines and impriſonment.

"That no ſubject of this kingdom, 'being in India, ſhall be permitted to 'buy up any warlike ſtores, on the 'ſame penalty; and that for the more 'ready detection of all ſuch offences, 'half the forfeitures to go to the infor-'mers.

"That his majeſty be empowered, by 'the advice of his privy council, to 'grant a new charter to the mayor's 'court in Bengal, conſtituting a chief 'juſtice, and three other judges, who 'were to be called, *The Supreme 'Court of Judicature*; and that all 'criminal matters were to be tried by 'jury, and all civil ones by depoſitions: 'notwithſtanding, nevertheleſs, ſubject 'to the appeal of the preſident and 'council, and from them to his majeſ-'ty and privy council here."

After theſe articles had been all gone through, Mr Orme roſe, and expatiated a great deal on the impropriety of ſome of the enacting clauſes, and obſerved, as it would be impoſſible for the court of proprietors, from the bare reading, to give a deciſive opinion on them, he thought it the beſt way to have them printed and diſtributed amongſt them, that on a future day they may be better enabled to know on what grounds they were acting.

Mr Fitzgerald, after complimenting the court of directors on their very great attention to their duty, agreed with Mr Orme.

Sir George Colebroke was warmly againſt giving any opinion on this matter; urging, that however he reſpected the authority and conſequence of that court, he reſpected his ſituation in a higher court more, where he would diſcloſe himſelf; he therefore thought the only way of proceeding was, by the following motion, which was ſeconded:

"That it be recommended to the 'court of directors, to apply to the crown 'for a new charter, for the better regu-'lation of the mayor's court in Bengal, 'as well as to parliament for regulating 'the company's *ſervants* in India."—And *threatened* (ſooner than be dictated to in his *ſenatorial* capacity) to withdraw himſelf from that court.

Governor Johnſton, in reply, after lamenting what a *great loſs* the company were menaced with by the ſeceſſion of the honourable gentleman who ſpoke before him, entered minutely, and with great knowledge, into particular obſervations on each article, ſhewing wherein they were totally defective, and where they wanted amendment; after which he very humorouſly, though pertinently, obſerved, "that though the directors 'had taken ſuch pains to bind down o-'thers, they took no notice of them-'ſelves." And then mentioned a very great neglect, which he ſaid, was commonly practiſed, that though, by charter, thirteen directors were obliged to ſign their names to all orders and letters ſent abroad to India, very few ever took the trouble of reading them before; which negligence often made many worthy, though indolent men amongſt them bluſh on the execution of ſuch orders.

[*The remainder in our next.*]

SCOTLAND.

EDINBURGH, MARCH 12.

Extract of a letter from London, March 7.

"Leave is given to bring in a bill for rendering the payment of the creditors of infolvent debtors more equal and expeditious; and for regulating the diligence of the law by arreſtment and poinding; and for extending the privilege of bills to promiſſory notes; and for limiting actions upon bills and promiſſory notes in Scotland.

"Leave is given to bring in a bill for deepening, cleaning, ſcouring, preſerving and maintaining the harbour of Air; for enlarging and improving the quays and piers; for erecting docks, breaſts, jettees and piers; and for regulating ſhips, lighters, and other veſſels, trading into, and going out of the ſaid harbour; and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.

"There has been preſented to a great houſe, according to order, a bill to continue the term, and alter and enlarge the powers, of ſo much of two acts, made in the 26th and 27th years of George II. for repairing ſeveral roads leading into the city of Glaſgow, as relates to the road from the city of Glaſgow to the town of Dumbarton, which was read the firſt time, and ordered to be read a ſecond time.

"There has been preſented to a great houſe, according to order, a bill for the better regulation of carters, carriages, loaded horſes, pedlars, and petty chapmen; and for filling up or incloſing coal and other pits and ſinks, and removing of obſtructions and nuiſances within Scotland, which was read a firſt time, and ordered to be read a ſecond time, and the bill printed.

"Leave is given to bring in a bill for lighting, cleaning and watching the ſtreets, lanes, and other paſſages of the burgh of Canongate, and the liberties of Pleaſance and Leith-wynd, adjoining to the royalty of the city of Edinburgh.

"There has been preſented to a great houſe, according to order, a bill to continue, and render more effectual, an act paſſed in the 26th year of his late majeſty, for repairing the road from the North Queen's-ferry, through the towns of Inverkeithing and Kinroſs, to the town of Perth; and alſo the road from the ſaid Queen's-ferry to the towns of Dunfermline, Torryburn and Culroſs; and alſo the road from the ſaid Queen's ferry, through Inverkeithing, to Burntiſland and Kirkcaldie; and the ſame was read the firſt time, and ordered to be read a ſecond time.

"A motion was made in the houſe of commons to repeal the act for obſerving the 30th of January, which paſſed in the negative, 125 againſt 97."

On Thurſday ſe'en-night, a coal-hewer in Cambuſlang coal-work had his ſkull fractured, by a large ſtone falling upon him from the roof: though all imaginable care was taken of him, he died next morning in great agony.

On Monday ſe'en-night, the trial of Richmond and Donaldſon [P. 190.], came on before the ſheriff of Lanarkſhire: the jury incloſed about three o'clock on Tueſday morning, and, at twelve noon, gave in their verdict,—which was, unanimouſly finding the panel James Richmond, guilty of the haill crimes charged againſt him, and finding him proven to be repute a thief.—Alſo finding it proven, that the other panel, Robert Donaldſon, was guilty, actor, art and part of the theft of the two cows belonging to James Stobo, James Ure, and Alexander Gardner, but finding it not proven, that he was guilty of ſtealing the young cow or quey, belonging to bailie James Jackſon.—The court delayed giving judgment till Monday the 9th current, at twelve o'clock noon.

Extract of a letter from Aberdeen, March 9.

"Deeply affected with the uncommon diſtreſs to which the late ſtorm had reduced ſome hundreds of labourers and their families round this place, and emboldened by the indulgence, the feeling and benevolent diſpoſition of its inhabitants gave them reaſon to hope for; a ſet of gentlemen, in buſineſs here, propoſed to act the Revenge (a tragedy, written by the author of the Night Thoughts), for the relief of the ſtarving poor; and this propoſal having met with conſiderable encouragement, was accordingly carried into execution on Tueſday evening, when, between the Acts of the Concert, moſt generouſly given by the Muſical Society in the Maſon-hall, the above Tragedy was performed to a very crowded audience; the room was neatly fitted up, the ſtage properly diſpoſed and decorated, and the whole of the entertainment much ſuperior to what could

expected from a first essay: after the Play, an *extempore* Farce was exhibited, under the name of the Stationer's Shop, in which a great deal of native humour produced universal mirth, and met with universal applause. Upon Saturday evening (likewise between the Acts of a Concert), the same Play and Farce were again performed to another crowded audience, in both of which, the merit of the actors appeared manifestly heightened, and the promise of a third representation of a Comedy (which will conclude the present undertaking) was received with general approbation. To the two former, occasional Prologues and Epilogues had been spoken with propriety by Mr Ewen (who keeps a shop in the hard-ware and toy way), and who, in the Epilogue to the second night, appeared in his own character, and acquitted himself with great spirit.

First night's Play produced — —	£. 59	6	3
Second ditto - - -	45	0	0
Donations to Mr Angus, treasurer to this charitable design - - -	52	9	8
	£. 136	15	11

From which fund, 826 families have already had their necessities relieved, by an allowance from two to six pecks of meal, besides cash given to those who could not be decently served with meal, and still a handsome balance remains in the treasurer's hands, which will be applied with the utmost caution and strictest impartiality, a committee of reputable gentlemen having been charged with, and undertaken the distribution.

PROLOGUE,

Spoken the first Night.

HAIL, heaven born Charity! whose warm embrace
Shelters and cherishes the needy race!
Hail, all her votaries! whose hearts o'erflow
With bounty's tide, and sympathetic woe!
And Oh, thrice hail, ye worthy and ye fair! (ships share!
Whose souls the starving lab'rers hard-
Who hear, with horror, of their sad distress, (less!
And who e'en venture *here* to make it
What gen'rous effort in a mind of taste,
Three precious hours, *in hearing us*, to waste!
For we, unpractis'd in the stage's arts,
Must mangle, at the best, our diff'rent parts;
But no vain-glory has our bosoms fir'd,
'Twas pure benevolence this thought inspir'd:
From *that alone* we some indulgence claim; (fame.
We melt with charity——but mind not

EPILOGUE.

NOW the hard penance we've impos'd is past,
And your tir'd patience is releas'd at last!
Now, by your bounty fed, th' industrious poor (store.
Will smile, in comfort, o'er their added
Yet be not all your pity *there* confin'd,
But let our errors with their wants be join'd;
For, when an actor can *relief* afford,
He labours in the vineyard of the Lord.

PROLOGUE,

Spoken the second Night.

ENCOURAG'D by indulgence without bounds,
Again we trespass on dramatic grounds;
Again leap o'er the fences of the stage,
And war, with every law of action, wage.
Yet not one cruel soldier here you see,
We take the field—a suttler's company!
By you supported, we prepare the treat,
And, at your kind desire, invite the poor to eat.

EPILOGUE.

AVAUNT, dull epilogues, with moral lays, (plays?
Must we say grace before and after——
Once more *John Ewen*, ladies, see before ye, (my story.
And, in my private character, pray hear
Twenty to one, it is already said,
That I no longer shall continue trade;
But that my wits and industry will fly
Along with Carlos *—That, alas! poor I
Shall see my buckles, necklaces and rings,
To play the fool—and strut with tragic kings.
So, idle humours to destroy, my plot is,
Ladies and gentlemen, to give you notice,
That I'll be ever proud to serve the fair
With precious samples of my best—hard-ware.
For, from the articles in which I deal,
I can supply them all from head to heel.
And, undisguis'd by any flatt'ring art,
I'd rather some sweet nymph would prize my heart †, (my part.
Than that, like Garrick, I should act

* *The part Mr Ewen acted in the play.*

† *Shewing a shirt-buckle in the shape of a heart.*

Much I could add, had I but hopes to
gain ye— (tertain ye.
But see! the Schivas-carrier ‡ waits to en-

On Tuesday the 25th current, a travelling beggar, who called himself Callum M'Leod, and said he came from Strath, in the isle of Sky, in summer last, in passing through the parish of Tarland, missed his way, and, night coming on, he perished in the snow. His body was found on Thursday, and decently interred in the church-yard of Tarland.

The Jeanie, Iver, is lost in her passage from the Bay of Honduras to Clyde.

The Polly, M'Cutchin, from Philadelphia to Belfast, was drove on shore on the 11th ult. at night, near the entrance of Belfast harbour; the cargo is much damaged, but the vessel is expected to be got off.

On Tuesday forenoon, Janet Denholm, a servant-girl at Leith-mills, in stooping to take up some water at the dam-head, fell in, and was unfortunately drowned. She was buried yesterday in South-Leith church-yard.

On Tuesday the high court of justiciary sentenced Samuel Hull, soldier in the 22d regiment of foot, upon his own petition, to be banished to the plantations for life, and adjudged the first seven years of his service to the contractor for transporting convicts. Hull was one of the three concerned in the several robberies committed in the neighbourhood of this city in December 1770, and January 1771, and for which William Pickwith, another soldier in the same regiment, was executed in the Grass-market on the 25th of September last.

FIARS of the shire of Edinburgh for crop and year 1771, are as follows, viz.

	£.		
Best wheat - - -	1	1	●
Blacked wheat - - -	0	19	4
Best barley - - - -	0	16	3
Blanded bear - - -	0	14	3
Rough bear - - - -	0	13	3
Oats - - - - - -	0	14	8
Muirland oats - - -	0	12	8
Meal by weight, 8 stone *per* boll - - -	0	16	8
Pease - - -	0	14	0

MARRIAGES.

Feb. 29. At London, M. de Valascoe, a Spanish merchant, (nephew of captain Valascoe, well known for his gallant defence of the Moro-castle), to Miss Longworth of Bury-street.

‡ *A humorous* take-off *in* Broad-Buchans *by Mr* Ewen.

March 2. At London, Charles Fielding, Esq; a captain in the royal navy, to Miss Finch, daughter of Lady Charlotte Finch, governess to the young princes and princesses.

12. At Edinburgh, William Douglas of Brekonwhat, Esq; eldest son of Sir John Douglas of Kilhead, Bart. and member for Dumfries, &c. to Miss Grace Johnston, eldest daughter of William Johnston of Lockerby, Esq;

DEATHS.

Nov. 5. At Williamsburgh, Virginia, in the 85th year of his age, John Blair, Esq; late president of the council, and commander in chief of that province.

Feb. —. At Vienna, prince Joseph Wenceslaus de Leichtenstein, grand field-marshal in the service of their royal and imperial majesties.

13. At Kingsborough in the isle of Skye, in the 83d year of his age, Alexander M'Donald of Kingsborough, Esq; This gentleman's goodness of heart was remarkably conspicuous on an ever-memorable occasion. After the battle of Culloden, when the Chevalier was reduced to such extremities of distress, that he knew not where to lay his head, Mr M'Donald had the humanity and resolution (notwithstanding numerous detachments from the British army hunted him like a partridge on the mountains) to afford him an asylum for a day and a night, at the risk of his life, and the ruin of his family. What rendered this instance of hospitality the more illustrious and disinterested, was his despising the immense premium of 30,000 l. offered by government for apprehending the person of Charles, by which he might at once have acquired a ministerial fortune. Independent of every political principle, such an example of fortitude of mind deserves to be recorded.

25. At Dunse, in the 58th year of his age, after a short illness, with the greatest composure and resignation, Mr Alexander Lorain of Reedyloch, surgeon in that place. He was very eminent in his profession of surgery and midwifery, which he had long practised with remarkable and uncommon success.

March 2. At London, Daniel M'Kercher, Esq; who spent an ample fortune in the great cause of Mr Annesley, in endeavouring to recover his estate and title from his uncle, Richard, late earl of Anglesea.